THE

R——L

REGISTER.

WITH

ANNOTATIONS

By ANOTHER HAND.

SIC PATER ÆNEAS.

VIRG.

VOL. V.

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ADVERTISEMENT.

IN the courſe of this Work, I have been ſometimes under the neceſſity of forfeiting my word with the Public. The nature of the materials frequently deceived me. I ſometimes judged, from the volume I was preparing for the preſs, of that which

which was to ſucceed it; which, when it came beneath my correction, was found to poſſeſs matter I did not expect, or to wear a form which had eſcaped my recollection.

I have declared that the whole of the manuſcripts would not employ more than four or five volumes; and now that I am come to the ſuppoſed period, much remains behind. I was, in ſome degree, led into this error by a falſe calculation of the difference between Manuſcript and Print: but this was not all; it was my firſt purpoſe that the

Notes

Notes ſhould, in general, be abridged or omitted; but finding that they were ſometimes conſidered as the moſt popular part of the Work, I have changed my intention, and inſerted them without reſerve. On two occaſions, where they were long and appeared to be intereſting, I have taken the liberty to convert them into critical Eſſays, and make them take a principal form in the Volume.

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Error in the Sentiments, demanded an Editor's Aſſiſtance. The detached piece relating to King Log, &c. was added as containing Matter analagous to the Work, and capable of affording a ſuitable variety.

Another circumſtance of more weight and importance than thoſe already mentioned has principally tended to encreaſe the Number of theſe Volumes; which is, the great encouragement and continuing favour of the Public. This has incited me, with no ſmall labour, to decypher abbreviated Characters, to develope reiterated

reiterated Interlineations, and reſtore the Senſe to parts rendered unintelligible by Obliteration. By theſe means, this Work has received no ſmall quantity of added Materials, which would, otherwiſe, have been thrown aſide, without ceremony and without regret.

The Note which aroſe from the Obſervations on Sir J— — Y—'s Character, and has been converted into "A curſory Account of the Diplomatic Repreſentation of Great-Britain," is grown into a length which it was impoſſible for me to fore-

ſee. This has prevented the immediate appearance of the *Conſiderations on Modern Oratory*, &c. which was promiſed to make a part of the preſent Volume. For this neceſſary alteration, as well as for any errors with which an Editor may be charged, I reſt on the favourable indulgence of my Readers. From ſuch of them as are acquainted with the trouble and confuſion which muſt attend the Buſineſs I have undertaken, I am ſecure of receiving it.

Another Volume is ready for the Preſs; nor have I the leaſt doubt

doubt but that ſuch as are yet to come will be equally deſerving of that favour which has been beſtowed upon thoſe already publiſhed.

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CHA-

CHARACTERS, &c.

L—— T———.

I Do not recollect that this Nobleman was ever advanced to any employment in my ſervice. He once, indeed, demanded a poſt, which, from its great importance, and his incapacity to fill it, was, without ceremony, refuſed him *.

This

* I think it was in the M—— of R———'s Adminiſtration, that this Nobleman, without any political experience, any preparatory employment, and with a very ſmall ſtore of French, aſked to be appointed

This circumſtance, together with his political connections, has rendered it impracticable for me to diſſipate the inconveniences of a ſmall fortune, and an expenſive wife, by giving him ſome ſort of State-Occupation to which he would be equal, and whoſe emoluments might ſuſtain the fortunes of his Houſe †.

I do

Ambaſſador to the Court of France. The requeſt was very naturally refuſed, and his inconſiderateneſs in having made it was treated with a becoming ridicule by the then friends of Government, and the preſent friends of his Lordſhip.

† I am afraid that a poſt of common profit would not have finally prevented the cataſtrophe which has ſince been compleated. This noble Lord is undone:—his houſhold furniture, library, pictures, &c. have been all ſold. But this is not all; he has involved ſome of his near Relations in ſimilar and even worſe diſtreſs. He now reſides in a ſo-

I do not mean to be ludicrous in the obſervation, that it is a folly in Peers of ſmall eſtate, and moderate abilities, to connect themſelves with Oppoſition, unleſs they bear along with them unequivocal proofs of that independent Spirit which is ſuperior to the frowns of Fortune, and defies the ſuſpicions of Mankind.

That it is the duty of every man to obey the dictates of his conſcience, and to be finally governed by his own mature judgment, is, in

a foreign country, and exhibits to the world the paradox of a man totally ruined, who lives with as much eclat, and in as much plenty, as at any paſt and more proſperous period of his life.——In ſome future period of this work, the art of thriving upon ruin, and living the better for being undone, will be particularly conſidered.

general, a concluſive argument; and when a man acts from ſuch a purity of principle, his very errors are reſpectable: but I moſt firmly believe, and my faith in theſe matters is founded on very impartial obſervation, that theſe Subalterns in Oppotion are as much the ſlaves of their Leaders as the moſt hireling Courtier. The Obedience of the one is equal to the Subſervience of the other.

The Peerage has a natural claim upon the Crown for aſſiſtance and ſupport, when private misfortune, the extravagance of anceſtors, or even the follies of noble individuals, have made it neceſſary; and the Crown never denies its aſſiſtance, when

when properly requeſted. I repeat my opinion, that, ſpeaking in the language of the World, ſuch men, whoſe talents are of that inferior kind as to be ever in a ſtate of ſubordination, act with very great imprudence indeed, to ſtarve in the hungry train of Oppoſition, when they might grow fat from the crumbs which fall from the table of a Court.

This Lord, I doubt not, like many other Patriots, will talk big of the folly and iniquity of Miniſters, weep over the miſeries of his country, and liſp forth all the common cant of his party; nay, in the zeal of his heart, he may blunder upon ſome hints of his indepen-

dence. I ſhould be very ſorry to aſk his Lordſhip, whether his principles, how ſteady ſoever they may be, would reſiſt the Duke of P— —'s Importunities?----Why do I thus ſoften my expreſſions? Would he heſitate a moment to obey his Commands?*

I almoſt loſe my patience when I hear of ſuch men vaunting an Independent Spirit; and I ſmile at their folly, when I conſider them as big with their own importance, and catching a momentary exultation from the applauſe of an unreflecting mob. They deceive very few

* The Duke of P— —'s ſaving acts of Friendſhip are ſuppoſed to have given his Grace a very controuling Power over the Lord in queſtion.

but

but themſelves. The greater part of mankind, whatever may be their opinion of Courts and Miniſters, have an higher idea of political Independence, than to ſuppoſe it conſiſts in a mere oppoſition to State Meaſures. The Foes of Government muſt ſcatter their bribes as well as the Friends of it. The rich among them muſt ſatisfy their hungry followers; the artful muſt flatter the weak; and the wiſhes of all muſt be highly fed to keep the tottering ſyſtem together, till wearied Experience, continual Diſappointment, and declining Hope, have prepared them for the union of Deſpair †.

L——

† Whoever has favoured my Annotations with their attention, muſt have perceived

L—— B— —.

FROM very natural cauſes it often happens that the Foſter Brotherhood produces as firm an attachment as that of real Conſanguinity. The ſeeds of Affection are finely ſown in the human heart by

that I am no flatterer of the preſent Miniſters; yet I cannot but acknowledge that this ſpirited picture of Oppoſition poſſeſſes no ſmall degree of ſimilitude. There are, without doubt, many able and honeſt men among thoſe who ſet their faces againſt the Court; but there are alſo ſome, I fear, of leſs upright intentions; and theſe, together with others, whoſe zeal has been miſguided and intemperate, have not only prevented that Unanimity which would, I think, have inſured their triumph over a blundering, ignorant, indeciſive Adminiſtration, but have planted ſuſpicions of what has been lately ſtiled Patriotiſm in the minds of a great part of the people.

the

the all-wiſe Framer of it; and its diſpoſitions to Brotherly Kindneſs evidently prove of what we are capable, and for what we were intended. They know nothing of Life's true happineſs, who have not promoted the kindly tendency of our nature to ſocial good.

If we exclude abſolute Want, and unrelievable Penury, which ſeem to form the aggregate ſtate of human miſery, the greateſt of all evils are the Diſſentions of Family Union, and the Breaches of real Attachment. Fraternal Love is a wonderful ſweetener of the bitter cup of life, and the indulgence of its affections through all the circles of Conſanguinity to connections of Friendſhip,

ſhip, and ſo on to the whole human race, not only forms the happineſs and honour of this world, but enlightens the mind with the moſt ſatisfactory ideas of the purity and perfection which belong to another and better ſtate *.

I experience the pleaſures, as I bear about me the wounds, of this philanthropic ſpirit. The lot of Kings is to know little of private Friendſhip; their pre-eminence

* This is a juſt and admirable ſentiment; and it affords me great pleaſure, that the doubts, which ſome have entertained concerning the Writer's poſſeſſion of fraternal Senſibility, have, in a great meaſure, been done away, by the eager readineſs which he has lately ſhewn to reconcile himſelf to a very amiable and perſecuted part of his family.

throws

throws them at a diſtance from that equality which is the ſoul of it. Even in the hours of relaxation from public cares, a Monarch dares not indulge it. Danger attends this natural compliance with his wiſhes. The friend and foe are not always to be diſtinguiſhed beneath that maſk of Flattery which is the dreſs of Courts †. Every-thing around him

† Mr. Pinchbeck is of a different opinion; and never fails to hold his Morning-Lectures in the Rooms at Tunbridge Wells on the eaſe with which his Majeſty lays aſide the dignity of a great Prince: nay, he will go ſo far as to give practical examples of the manner in which the King of Great-Britain, France, and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, and ſo forth, draws a cork, or ſnuffs a candle. This man has gone ſo far as to repeat the counſels he has offered to the Throne in his colloquial parties with Sovereignty, and ſhews,

him announces to a Prince that his attentions are not to be confined to particular, but extended to the general welfare; and, though he is not denied the enjoyment of domeſtic ſatisfaction, his care and vigilance is to paſs on to public happineſs, and the Father of the Family muſt yield to the Father of the People. His Kingdom is his family; and every private wiſh, and every domeſtic attachment, muſt be ſacrificed at the command of that great and primary intereſt. But the promotion of in-

ſhews, to confidential friends, a Memorial that he himſelf drew up and preſented, in order to compoſe the troubles of America. It was for ſome ſuch ſervice as this that the Queen made him a preſent of her celebrated *Zebra*, which added to the ſplendor of his itinerant exhibition of wild beaſts.

dividual

dividual virtue may be ſaid to advance the general good; and thoſe are the happieſt moments of my life, when I can at once indulge my private regard, and promote the public welfare.

This Lord is the ſon of a man who was the faithful and favoured ſervant of a moſt kind and honoured Parent; and I was taught to love him in my infant years. His merit raiſed him to the dignity of the Peerage; and not only an habitual regard for his offspring, but the worth of his ſucceſſor, will ever juſtify the eſteem I feel, and ſhall continue to manifeſt, towards him *.

* This Lord's father was Sir William Irby, Chamberlain to the late Princeſs Dowager of Wales, and created, a few years before his death, a Peer of the Realm.

E— of S— —.

IN a country where the number of Nobles is but ſmall, the duties annexed to their characters of the firſt importance, and their education conducted with ſo much ſkill and attention, it might be thought almoſt impoſſible that any individual of ſuch high and conſpicuous ſtation could ſink into that degree of inſignificance, as hardly to be known in the larger circuit of ſociety.—Yet ſo it is.—Of the ſmall number of Peers of this Realm, there are more than could well be imagined who are only known by an occaſional attendance on the Senate and the Levee, and whoſe importance goes no further than

than the Precedency of an Aſſembly, and the empty parade of their Coronets, at a country race, or provincial meeting.

This man's name and titles are hardly known but to the readers of the Royal Calendar, the Uſher of the Preſence, the Door-keeper of the Houſe of Lords, and a ſmall circle of country neighbours *. He has not talents, I fear, to obtain any place in the Regiſter of Fame. I do not recollect that he has ever exerted a ſufficient degree of ſpirit to

* There are others alſo with whom this breed of Nobles has, very frequently, a pleaſant ſort of acquaintance, though it may not be of a very public nature;—I mean, with the Firſt Lord and Secretaries of the Treaſury.

acquire

acquire an obſervation in the paſſing Chronicles of the day †.

E——

† The Great Perſonage who is ſuppoſed to have written this lively opinion, is not, I apprehend, ſo well acquainted with the daily papers as is generally imagined; or he would have been informed that this noble Lord, not indeed from his own vivacity, but from the lively diſpoſition of his daughter, was, at different times, favoured with a few morning obſervations in one of the daily treaſuries of human events. The ſtory is, I believe, as follows:

Lord S—— has an only daughter, who was educated with all the care and attention which it was natural for him to beſtow on ſuch an object of his affection, and the heireſs of his fortune. The young Lady, however, thought proper to avail herſelf of her father's confidence in a military friend, whom the richneſs of the prize tempted to ingratitude, to make a matrimonial journey to Scotland. The diſappointed Peer exerciſed his immediate vengeance, by baniſhing the new-married couple from his preſence, and, as I have been informed, refuſing them

E—— of E——.

THIS Nobleman bid as fair as his brother Peer who precedes him for Oblivion; but the Ladies who

them every kind of aſſiſtance: however, they contrived to live upon preſent love, and the proſpects of future riches, till, by the death of Lady S——, which is an unpleaſant part of the hiſtory, my Lord was placed in a ſituation to compleat his reſentment by another marriage, and procuring, ſome how or other, an heir who ſhould puniſh his daughter's diſobedience by ſnatching from her the right of inheritance. Thus armed, he went immediately, like a true knight-errant, in queſt of ſome fair, healthy, youthful damſel, whom he might deliver from the ſolitude of Celibacy; and he at length found ſuch a one in the amiable daughter of a Briſtol merchant, who did not poſſeſs the firſt reputation in that city: but the pride of Nobility was annihilated by the incitements of Revenge, who, on this occaſion,

who have ſhared his rank and fortune would not ſuffer it. Their

caſion, aſſumed the ſymbols of Cupid. The young Lady, being poſſeſſed of ſome old-faſhioned ideas, that Love did not accompany Age, that Affection ſhould attend upon *Hymen*, and that a Coronet would not prove a ſpecific againſt the Heart-ach of Diſappointment, combated, for ſome time, the mercantile zeal of her parents: but at length ſhe was perſuaded to become a Counteſs, and be miſerable, at leaſt, during the life of her huſband. However, I have been informed, that this amiable victim to low pride, and parental anger, has taken the only method which remained to be happy, in exerting her utmoſt endeavours to ſoften her Lord's reſentment againſt his offending daughter, and to be the harbinger of Peace to the family to which ſhe is united. Her amiable Benevolence has extended itſelf ſtill further; for it muſt be owing to a very noble ſenſe of that humane principle that ſhe has not, I believe, as yet, anſwered the noble Earl's wiſhes in furniſhing him with the grand inſtrument of his revenge,—an heir to his eſtate.

Beauty, and the many good qualities which they have manifeſted to the World, have given their Lord alſo to the notice of Mankind. Indeed, while the beautiful woods of C— — — — — — are viſited by the inhabitant of the Capital, the exiſtence of their owner muſt be known. There ſeems, however, to be nothing but this alliance with living and ſylvan Beauty to inform the generality of his fellow-creatures that there lives ſuch a man as the E— of E— —.

It is a mortifying and vexatious reflection to a Prince, that ſuch a ſhameful inconſequence can involve the characters of men who more immediately ſurround and were formed

to ſupport the Throne of a great Empire *.

E— of P— — — —.

A Great and a reſpectable name loſt in inſignificance, and worſe than inſignificance †.

* And is it not equally mortifying and vexatious to the people, that ſuch a man, for the ſake of a dead vote in Parliament, ſhould poſſeſs a place and a penſion to the amount of 1500l. per annum?

† This laconic but ſevere deſcription alludes, and I fear very juſtly, to the late Lord of this title: and I am ſorry to ſay that the preſent poſſeſſor of it has not manifeſted any tokens of a diſpoſition to redeem the errors of his predeceſſor, and renew the veneration due to the name he bears.

L—

L—— H———.

PUBLIC Reputation is not the lot of all who deſerve it: indeed, there are ſome men, who, though of very acknowledged excellence, are averſe to it, and, with a conſcientious deſire of diſcharging their duties as public characters, poſſeſs inclinations more diſpoſed to give brilliance and ſplendor to domeſtic life.

An honeſt man, who poſſeſſes a calm, unruffled temper of mind, will not be rouſed by the common occurrences of human affairs to quit the tranquillity of his courſe; but the private life of ſuch a man is

Fame. The happineſs of his family, the gratitude of his dependents, the attachment of his friends, and the virtues which mark his conduct, are a golden Reputation to him; and, though he may not acquire that Celebrity which darts its active rays to diſtant nations, and bears a dazzling effulgence to future times, an honourable reſpect will wait upon his name while he lives, and a long, ſanctifying remembrance will bear teſtimony that he deſerved it, when he ſhall be no more *.

This

* The Nobleman who is the ſubject of this favourable and juſt Animadverſion is the ſon of the well-known Sir D—— R——, who died Chief Juſtice of the King's Bench; and, had he lived a few hours longer, would have died a Peer of the Realm. The Patent for this purpoſe had been

This Lord had a perſonal claim to the honours which he has received; and his virtues juſtify his advancement to them †.

D—

been made out, when ſome idle diſputes about Precedency, with thoſe who were named to the ſame honour, delayed the final ſolemnity of the Great Seal till he was departed to where titles and diſtinctions are of no avail. But the honours which had been given, as it were, to the father, were, for a long time, denied to the ſon, who was not till very lately advanced to that dignity to which he had ſuch a reaſonable claim, and his character ſo well deſerves.

† It is with pleaſure I relate an action of this Nobleman which diſplays a moſt reſpectable liberality of ſentiment, and will give pleaſure to every virtuous mind. The character of his father is well known, and his attachment to the things of this world not yet forgotten. The learned Judge diſcovered in his laſt Will and Teſtament, as he had done throughout Life, that he well knew and conſidered the value of Money.

D— of H— — —.

PARENTAL Care ſeems to be increaſed in proportion to the rank and fortune of its object. In the lower claſſes of active Life, Neceſſity will not ſuffer the immediate tenderneſs of the Parent to be prolonged to any

ney. Among other ſaving clauſes of it, he particularly and ſpecifically deviſed, that any ſettlement his ſon might make upon his marriage, ſhould be in proportion, and not in a very ample proportion, to the fortune he might receive. But the generoſity and regard of the Son baffled the narrow, mercantile deſigns of the Father: and, previous to his marriage with the Daughter of the late excellent Biſhop of London, whoſe portion would not admit of a ſettlement ſatisfactory to his generous wiſhes, he preſented the Lady with a very large addition to it, which enabled him to make a proviſion for her equal to his fortune and affection.

great

great degree beyond the infant ſtate. The child muſt ſoon enter into the School of Labour, in order to learn the art of getting that bread which his parents can no longer give him. Health and Strength are his ſole patrimony; and, poſſeſſed of them, he leaves little to be wiſhed for in the parental boſom, whoſe regards, tho' originally the ſame, are prevented, by the continual avocations of their ſtation, from feeling the augmented tenderneſs of thoſe in higher life. They, meeting with no interruption to the courſe of their affections, find them grow with the growth, and ſtrengthen with the ſtrength, of their offspring.

Nature ſeems to make no diſtinction while the infant hangs at the breaſt

breaſt of its mother. The Beggar hugs her child, which ſhe can ſcarce cover from the wind, as cloſely to her as the greateſt Princeſs, who has a Crown to give it: but the many interruptions to maternal tenderneſs which the former muſt experience from her diſtreſs and penury, will tend to weaken the tie which binds her to it. The ſtorms of her life forbid that flow of ſerene hours which give the finer Affections time to expand. The growth of her offſpring is not always attended with heart-felt pleaſure; and that dire Neceſſity, which operates to the deſtruction of every feeling foreign to itſelf, will make her ſeparation from it a matter of no extreme anxiety. In the higher claſſes of life, where

not

not only the tender feelings of the mind have leiſure to grow into refinement, but domeſtic intereſts, and the gratification of ſelfiſh paſſions, ſometimes mingle with parental affections, parental ſollicitude will be found gradually to increaſe as the period of compleating its wiſhes approaches. The courſe of education is purſued with extreme vigilance; and the parent has little relaxation, during this uncertain progreſs, from watchful Care, and trembling Apprehenſion.

When the age of Reaſon and Maturity has given the child ſome degree of power and authority over himſelf, he begins to look about to the eſtabliſhment of connections which

which are to give a colour to the reſt of his life. The alarms of the parent now begin to encreaſe, leſt the views of Intereſt or Ambition, which had grown along with his affection for his child, and had become a part of it, ſhould be deſtroyed by the Imprudence of youth. The apprehenſions of this period are commonly the moſt poignant of parental life; when it ſometimes happens, that, in one moment, all its hopes are blaſted by Ingratitude, and the anxious expectation of years vaniſhes into all the miſery of diſappointment.

It is a common and, too often, a juſt complaint, that children, when the age of Manhood, and the period of

of Independence, are attained, throw aſide, as it were, all thoughts of filial reſpect, and act towards the authors of their being with almoſt the ſame inſenſibility that the bird poſſeſſes, who, feeling the power of its wing, at once quits the neſt where it had been nurſed into ſtrength, and knows its parent no more. But if children are generally diſpoſed to do too little for their parents, it muſt be acknowledged that parents are equally inclined to expect too much from their children. It is a difficult matter for the former to curb the liberty which they have juſt attained; and the latter are not diſpoſed to give up the power they have ſo long poſſeſſed. There muſt

be

be great good ſenſe on both ſides whenever this matter is ſettled to the ſatisfaction of one and the other. I would be underſtood to be conſidering the ſituation of a Son and a Father; for, whatever age a Daughter may attain, the World will not let her quit the maternal protection but for that of an Huſband.

Marriage is the grand and cloſing object of rich and noble parents; and their general conduct in this important circumſtance of their children's happineſs proves how inſenſibly the fondeſt feelings of Tenderneſs melt away before the powerful approaches of worldly Intereſt. There are numberleſs and continual examples, where the

the mother, who would have guarded the life of her infant at the expence of her own, after it has grown into maturity, and is accompanied with every advantage of a long and aſſiduous education, ſhall ſacrifice it at once to Miſery and Greatneſs, with a moſt eager ſatisfaction.

The worſt of all bondage is Marriage unſanctified by Affection; it not only produces Infidelity, but Vice. It leads to an abandoned and profligate Life, proceeds in Diſtreſs, and ends in Ruin. With ſo many examples of this nature continually preſented to them, how is it poſſible to reconcile the infatuation of parents, who are daily offering up the honour and happineſs of

their

their children at the ſhrine of Intereſt and Ambition?*

The noble Duke, whoſe amiable character ſuggeſted the foregoing obſervations, ſeems reſolved to conſult his own happineſs, in oppoſition to the views of his family. It is true,

* Being well acquainted with the high conſideration which the Mother of this young Duke maintains at St. James's, it at firſt very much aſtoniſhed me to read any reflections which had a tendency to blame the conduct of a perſon ſo highly favoured as her Grace of A——. But in the important buſineſs of uncontrouled Matrimony, his ——— may be naturally ſuppoſed to have ſomewhat of a fellow-feeling. He himſelf was ſtrongly diſpoſed to gratify his own ardent wiſhes in marrying the woman of his choice, though of inferior rank; and it was with no ſmall difficulty that Lord B—'s predominant influence could turn them aſide.

that

that the impetuous Paſſion of Youth cemands reſtraint and regulation: it is too apt to look to the gratification of the moment, without attention to future conſequences; and is ever diſpoſed to build thoſe airy, ideal fabrics of Happineſs which an approaching experience diſſipates into nothing, or perhaps worſe than nothing, diſappointment and diſguſt. But I hope better things from this young Nobleman; and that, if he purſues the bent of his preſent inclinations, he will experience and acknowledge the truth of the royal proverb, that *a virtuous woman is a crown unto her huſband* †.

B— —

† Since the foregoing obſervations were made, the D— of H— — — compleated his matrimonial purpoſe, in oppoſition not

B—— of S————.

MEN who are employed in thoſe profeſſions which relate to Time, are obliged to labour and

only to the wiſhes, but the ſtratagems of his mother. She had other, and, in the language of the World, better views for her ſon. In her opinion, the daughter of a private Gentleman, however amiable and accompliſhed, was not qualified to be allied to her. Her firſt huſband, however, was of a different opinion, or ſhe herſelf would have been at this time in I know not what ſtate of obſcurity. Her ſon adopted the ſentiments of his father, and made Miſs B—— a Ducheſs. After all, it muſt be acknowledged that a mere love-match is a dangerous experiment in the traffic of human happineſs; and I wiſh that the ſuſpicions on the ſubject of this marriage may prove to want foundation. It is confidently ſaid that the love ſick Duke was a knight-errant

and work hard for their rewards. The Phyſician who watches over our health, the Lawyer who defends our property, and the Artiſt who produces the neceſſary comforts and pleaſurable amuſements of life, muſt not only have prepared the way to the emoluments of their profeſſions by much ſtudy and laborious application, but muſt continue the ſame means to preſerve them. On the contrary, the Teachers of the things

errant upon the occaſion, and is now heartily ſick of the adventure; while the young Ducheſs is not without the unpleaſant experience, that a Ducal Coronet is a preſent which ſhould be ſteadily refuſed when offered by the hand of romantic and capricious youth, whoſe love is but fancy, and cannot be preſerved by the utmoſt exertions of duty and affection.

of Eternity, who ſhould be as ſhining lights in the World, too generally conſider their preſent eaſe and enjoyment as the principal object of their thoughts, leave the duties of paſtoral Care to the inferior Clergy, enjoy the affluent indolence of their ſtations as if life was given for nothing more, and live, to all appearance, in a ſtate of inattention to the ſolemn Account that they muſt one day give.

I am ſorry to ſay it, but ſo it is, that the ſacred declaration of the Children of this World being wiſer in their generation than the Children of Light, never appears to me in ſuch full illuſtration as when I reflect on the greater number of the higher

higher Orders of the Prieſthood. How inattentive are they to the reſpective duties,—how very watchful over the profits, of their preferment! What Envy, Jealouſy, and Ambition, is to be ſeen amongſt them! With what little reluctance do they yield to the indolent ſpirit which riches encourage! --- and, though I am not informed of any open breach of moral Decorum in any individual of the Right Reverend Bench, yet how rare is the example of a truly evangelical teacher to be found amongſt them, the continual object of whoſe life is the glory of God, and the welfare of the people committed to his charge*.

L—

* The juſtneſs of this obſervation will meet, I truſt, with general aſſent; and, I

 fear,

L— B— —.

THE proverb of a nine days wonder was never more amply verified than in the circumſtance of this

fear, aroſe very naturally from the character under contemplation. I remember a very ſingular circumſtance concerning this Prelate, which marks his diſpoſition, and juſtifies the reflections which his name has produced. He dined at a noble Lord's houſe in the neighbourhood of the epiſcopal reſidence with a conſiderable party. The converſation of the afternoon was animated, chaſte, and improving; but, in the midſt of a moſt agreeable diſcourſe, the Right Reverend Viſitor exhibited a moſt emphatic yawn, which was immediately followed by a deſire to introduce the Card-Table. The noble Hoſt bluſhed at the Right Reverend wiſh, though his politeneſs yielded to it, and not only ſocial, but a brilliant converſation was abruptly concluded, to indulge his Spiritual Lordſhip with a game of Quadrille.

this noble Lord's unfortunate rencontre with Mr. C——, his conſequent trial, and honourable acquittal. After having been the ſubject of all converſation throughout the Kingdom, and the object of an univerſal and intereſting attention, his name is mentioned no more, and his misfortune entirely forgotten.

In a country like our own, where every-thing becomes a ſubject for public examination, the events of to-day will expel thoſe of yeſterday, as the circumſtances of to-morrow will diſſipate thoſe of to-day. As

drille.—Such is the conduct and diſpoſition of a man, who, if there is any truth in the Goſpel, ought to bear in continual remembrance the commands of his Maſter, to *take up his croſs daily, and follow him.*

wave impels wave, ſo is the courſe of human occurrences; and, as the mind is ever graſping at ſomething new, life becomes a running hiſtory, a daily regiſter of events, which are ſo preſſed upon the ſucceeding ones, that the greater part of mankind ſink into their graves, and the memory of them is gone, as it were, with the ſound of that knell which tolled them thither.

This diſpoſition of things, however, is attended with excellent effects. It preſerves ſuch as have, from various cauſes, been guilty of errors, from falling into deſpair; as they may be aſſured, that, in a ſhort time, the bad parts of their character will be, in a great meaſure, forgotten,

gotten, and the World ready to receive every favourable impreſſion to which a future and better conduct will give them a claim. On the contrary, the man, who, by his wiſdom, integrity, or the exertion of any great and rare excellence, has commanded the public eſteem and veneration, will be ſenſible that he muſt continue in the bright career which he has begun, or that ſome new candidate for Fame will ſupplant him in the hearts of Mankind. Thus the bad are preſerved from deſperation, and encouraged to amendment; while the good are ſtimulated to continue their courſe of honour.

The people are ſometimes capricious, but ſeldom deceived: they are

are not diſpoſed to trace things to a remote period, nor to look forward to any diſtant proſpect; they form their judgment upon the circumſtances of the moment; they are governed, like the Judge upon the Bench, by the evidence before them; and it does not often happen that their decrees will warrant an appeal*.

L—

* The late Earl of Bath is a remarkable inſtance of Popularity poſſeſſed, loſt, and, in ſome degree, regained. The public favour which once followed him could alone be equalled by the odium which ſucceeded: nevertheleſs, he lived to poſſeſs no ſmall degree of importance and political reſpect. He re-obtained ſo much of the public confidence, that, in any State-meaſure, his opinion, when it was known, had no inconſiderable influence with the people. On this account, it was thought adviſeable that his preſent Majeſty, on aſcending the Throne, ſhould favour this veteran Stateſman

L— R— —.

IT has been generally imagined, that a creation of Peers is made with a conſtant view to ſtrengthen

man with a very particular and moſt reſpectful attention: his appointment to the Lieutenancy of Shropſhire, which occaſioned ſuch diſſatisfaction in that county, was the conſequence of it. Another circumſtance alſo happened which gave the young Monarch an opportunity of exerciſing his political flattery, and with great good ſenſe he availed himſelf of it. In an audience Lord Bath had of his Sovereign, when he was ſo infirm as to be incapable of ſtanding without the aſſiſtance of a cane, his ſupport accidentally fell from him, and the King, immediately reaching it from the ground, reſtored it to its uſe, and relieved the venerable Peer, in the moſt engaging manner, from the confuſion which ſuch a circumſtance occaſioned.

the

the hands of Government. There may have been periods when ſuch meaſures have proceeded from political neceſſity; but they have not been adopted in my experience, or this Nobleman would not ſo long have waited for his promiſed honours.

The Commoners, who have been called up to the Houſe of Lords in the preſent reign, have received their dignities as rewards of their merit, or the natural attendants upon large and commanding property. In order to preſerve the hereditary repreſentation of the Kingdom entire, it ſeems to be a wiſe and ſalutary meaſure, as Peerages become extinct, to call thoſe to the vacant honours whoſe

whoſe intereſts are moſt deeply connected with the general welfare *.

* Mr. P— was ever the firm adherent of Lord B—, and received the promiſe of a Peerage during the Adminiſtration of that Nobleman. He returned from Turin, at which Court he then repreſented his Sovereign, in order to claim the promiſed honour: however, it ſo happened that he was not raiſed to it till 1776. He poſſeſſes an immenſe landed property, and has ever been eſteemed a model of a modern fine Gentleman. He is well-bred, accompliſhed, and debauched. He ill-treated his wife, the moſt charming in the world, who loved him till he deſerved to be hated. He has long been ſeparated from her, and has every diſpoſition to debauch the wife or the daughter of his boſom-friend.

L——

L— M— — —.

THIS amiable young Nobleman deſerves every mark of regard from me. It is my duty, as well as inclination, to compenſate, if poſſible, by my favour, for the dark cloud of ungracious opinion which ſurrounds every part of his family, as there is reaſon to ſuſpect, from an over-zealous attachment to me.

It is a real misfortune to this excellent young Lord, that, on his entrance into the World, he finds his paſſage to Happineſs obſtructed by the prepoſſeſſion of Mankind againſt him, becauſe he is the ſon of a Nobleman whom popular Anger has driven

driven from public Employment, and devoted to Infamy. Every ſtep he takes, ſome circumſtance of mortification will meet him on the way; and the ſteadineſs of conſcious Virtue, which marks his parent's character, and has conducted him to the covert of Obſcurity, muſt add to the poignant regrets of filial Affection.

He has ſeen a father, of whoſe tenderneſs he has had the moſt pleaſing experience, and to the virtues of whoſe nature he has been a continual witneſs, hunted from his country by the outrages of a miſled, vindictive multitude; forced from the ſatisfactions of domeſtic life to ſeek a refuge in foreign lands, in order to give the angry ſpirit,

awakened

awakened into fury againſt him, time to loſe its force, or change its object. He beholds him returned to receive freſh inſult, and to be menaced with renewed vengeance. He is a witneſs to the reſolution which this tender parent makes of turning his back for ever on Greatneſs, and ſeeking an aſylum from the unjuſt hatred of his countrymen in the amuſements of a provincial and retired life. He has the added mortification to find that the tranquillity of his mind is not reſtored, and that the ſorrows of domeſtic misfortune give new ſhocks to his wounded ſpirit, prey upon his health, and embitter his days. But this is not all; he ſees his father's character hourly traduced in the party productions

and

and chronicles of the times, and his Adminiſtration conſidered as the ſource of every misfortune and calamity which has befallen the Nation.

The errors of miſtaken men I cannot correct:---their injuſtice is beyond the reach of my power. I cannot even ſhield myſelf from it; nor will a Throne protect me from the madneſs of their reproach. But the conſolations of my Friendſhip, and the advantages of my Protection, ſhall wait upon this noble Lord while I live; and my children, I truſt, if he ſhould ſurvive me, will continue to venerate the Friend of their Father *.

* I would recommend the reader to look once more at the laſt article of the fourth volume.

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* I would recommend the reader to look once more at the laſt article of the fourth volume.

L— F—.

IF the worthy Father of this Nobleman had not obtained the honours of the Peerage, the Son would never have been entitled to them, who, by a moſt rapid courſe of Debauchery, Extravagance, and Gaming, has rendered one of the nobleſt fortunes in the Kingdom abortive, and involved himſelf in a ſtate of diſtreſs, from the miſery and diſgrace whereof he can never be extricated *.

There

* The diſtreſs of this unfortunate and infatuated Nobleman is the puniſhment of his Folly; and, as it will attend him to the end of his days, it might be thought, by an humane mind, to be more than adequate to the offence, if he had not aimed at doing an

There is a Law, as I have been informed, in many parts of the Continent,

an eſſential injury to his children, in order to enlarge the means of his own enjoyments. His endeavour to ſet aſide the Will of his father, by applying for an Act of Parliament for that purpoſe, manifeſts a ſelfiſhneſs of diſpoſition that is almoſt out of the reach of atonement. His endeavour to procure the legal annihilation of a Will, framed with the moſt deliberate Wiſdom, and upon the ſtrict principles of Juſtice, was oppoſed with all the power that might be expected from the conſummate abilities of the Lords Mansfield and Camden, when united in defence of Law and Equity. Nevertheleſs, the combined efforts of theſe great men would have been entirely fruitleſs, if the amiable E— of C—, and the renowned Lord C——, had not found the Claret of a neighbouring Tavern too good to quit, even to ſerve their Friend on ſuch an important occaſion. The Reference of the Bill to the Judges was carried but by one voice; and theſe two Noblemen came moſt

tinent, which appears to be founded in real Wiſdom. This Law empowers the next in ſucceſſion to an Eſtate, upon ample proof that the immediate Poſſeſſor is waſting and conſuming it, to make application to the Government to take poſſeſſion of it, appoint Truſtees, and preſerve the inheritance from deſtruction. The extravagant Culprit alſo is frequently confined till he becomes ſenſible of his miſconduct, and manifeſts a diſpoſition to amendment.

providentially into the Houſe, and not in their ſobereſt ſenſe, at the moment the diviſion was concluded.—The Judges, as it might be expected, ſet their faces againſt a meaſure ſo contrary to Law, and pregnant with ſuch continual miſchief; ſo that, though it was ſtill, in ſome degree, ſupported, it was finally rejected.

No

No particular objection at preſent occurs to me why ſuch a Law might not be adopted, under certain limitations, by the Britiſh Legiſlature. Licentiouſneſs might be curbed, while Liberty could not be injured by it; for true Liberty loves to be reſtrained, and ordains its votaries to reſign a ſmall ſhare of it, that the far greater and better part may be rendered permanent and ſecure *.

The

* This Law deſerves all the praiſe which the R — — Writer beſtows upon it; but I have my doubts whether it would be practicable to engraft any modification of it on the Engliſh Conſtitution. The cauſe of its neceſſity would operate moſt powerfully againſt it. No one can be ignorant of the frequent and unſucceſsful attempts which have been made to eſtabliſh a public Regiſtry of Eſtates in other counties beſides York and Middleſex. Such a meaſure

The extravagance of modern times calls aloud for ſome preventive meaſure of this nature, that the ſucceſſions of great and noble families may not be diſſipated; and that the wealth, which has been obtained by the ſweat of Induſtry, and at the riſque of Life, may not become a prey to the needy, rapacious vultures of the Gaming-Houſe. It makes me turn pale, when the Repreſentatives of ancient and ſplendid Families apply to have their names inſcribed on the Liſt of Penſions, to preſerve a ſhadow of their former Dignity †.

would be attended with the moſt beneficial effects; nevertheleſs, it has always met with a ſtrong and effectual oppoſition from the falſe pride of the landed Intereſt.

† See Vol. IV. p. 164.

B— — of B— —*.

WHEN the Mitre adorns a Prelate whoſe labours have announced to Mankind his Zeal, Piety,

* This learned Prelate has not only been long diſtinguiſhed as an eminent Preacher, but has obtained an eminent rank among modern Divines, by his elaborate Illuſtration of the Scripture Prophecies. For my own part, I have that eſteem for his character, that I wiſh he had finiſhed with the Prophets of the Old Teſtament, and not ventured into the regions of the Apocalypſe, where no Commentator has hitherto trod, without bewildering himſelf, and thoſe who have accompanied him, in the unavailing enquiry. The Evidence of Chriſtianity does not depend upon unfolding the old theological Enigmas of the Man of Sin, and the Whore of Babylon: and I cannot but ſuſpect, that they, who perplex themſelves in ſuch a purſuit, are rather led away by the

Piety, and Learning, he redeems, in ſome degree, the Reverend Bench from

parade of Learning and critical Sagacity, than impelled by a zeal for illuſtrating the Myſteries of Religion.

If my memory does not fail me, Boſſuet cloaths the latter Roman Emperors in the Scarlet Robes of the Revelations. Warburton, Newton, &c. with the general, inconſiderate conſent of the Proteſtant Church, have given the ignominious titles of the Apocalypſe to the Roman Pontiff. The former of theſe Prelates has founded a Lecture at Lincoln's-Inn-Chapel to prove the truth of his opinion; in which the two firſt learned Preachers have not, I think, quite ſucceeded. The Quaker applies theſe ſcandalous characters to the Clergy of our own Church;—while ſome more ſimple Enquirers have given them to the encreaſing Corruptions of the World, which they ſuppoſe to forebode the final diſſolution of it. —But I have not yet done. In a learned Commentary on ſome parts of the Apocalypſe, not long ſince publiſhed by a diſciple of

from the frequent and, I fear, too juſt accuſation of haughty Indolence which is brought againſt it. Religion finds a ſupport in the honours which ſhe beſtows on ſuch a man, and Eccleſiaſtical Pomp does not offend the Chriſtian Beholder when it ſerves to diſplay the Brightneſs of Chriſtian Virtue.

of St. Ignatius, the Author aſſerts that the Whore of Babylon has not yet made her appearance; but that ſhe is to come at ſome future and not very diſtant period, in the form of a *Kam of Tartary*.

To enforce by precept and example the Goſpel Command of loving God with all our heart, and our Neighbour as ourſelves, is the principal duty of Chriſtian Teachers; and if they would leave the Man of Sin and the Whore of Babylon to themſelves, it would ſave them and their readers much time unprofitably employed, and reſerve their talents for better and more important exertions.

The

The literal Simplicity of primitive Chriſtianity, however neceſſary on its firſt appearance, cannot be preſerved in the more flouriſhing and advanced ages of the Church. When it becomes incorporated with the Governments of great and ſplendid Empires, it naturally riſes from its humble ſtate into regular Eſtabliſhments, is cloathed with Forms and Ceremonies, becomes endowed with ſomewhat of external Grandeur, and partakes of the external Dignity that accompanies the Temporal Laws, which, being originally derived from it, moſt naturally cooperate with and protect it.

The Chriſtian Religion, being the offspring of Heaven, may be perverted,

verted, but is unchangeable by man. Its divine Author having preſcribed no particular form whereby its principles ſhould be enforced and propagated, it may be reaſonably concluded that to human Reaſon he left the taſk of conducting its progreſs, and modifying its external exerciſe, according to the nature of thoſe Countries and Governments which ſhould embrace it. Hence, from human weakneſs, and the natural imperfection of all human undertakings, the pure Spirit of Chriſtianity has been obſcured by the clouds of Ignorance, perverted by the zeal of Enthuſiaſm, and rendered ſubſervient to the deſigns of Tyranny and Ambition. But this celeſtial Revelation could not be

long

long overwhelmed by the errors of the World; and, in the courſe of different degrees of Reformation, it began by degrees to reſume its natural appearance, and diſcover its real character, till it beamed forth in a higher degree of luſtre and effulgence than it had known ſince the firſt ages of its Eſtabliſhment, in the form of the Proteſtant Church of theſe Kingdoms.

Its preſent ſtate, however, like every other work of man, falls ſhort of poſſible Perfection. Much Temporality, and ſome little of its Forms, require to be done away. A new modification of its ſuperior as well as inferior Teachers, with a more equal and leſs precarious

rious regulation of its Revenues, is indiſpenſably neceſſary, to give the Spirit of it that full energy and effect which it was intended to produce.

I am well aware how difficult it would be at any time, much more in the preſent age of Luxury and Corruption, to promote ſuch an union between the Spirit of Chriſtianity and thoſe Forms which the ſtate of Mankind renders neceſſary, that ſhould happily co-operate with, and receive from each other, every eſſential aid to enforce their mutual operations. To attain ſuch an excellent end, however arduous the taſk might be, it would become an indiſpenſable object to make the religious

ligious Profeſſors independent of their Flock, but abſolutely dependent on a ſtrict, active, and zealous diſcharge of their duty: ſo that if any of them ſhould be inſincere, they muſt at leaſt diſplay an exemplary conduct. Perſevering Hypocriſy cannot be known by Men; it is to be ſeen only and puniſhed by Heaven.

To realize ſuch a pious theory, in ſpite of all the obſtacles which would attend it, has long been the ſubject of my contemplations, and the devout wiſh of my heart. My daily prayer to God is, and ever has been, to make me inſtrumental, if it ſhould be his good pleaſure, in commencing, promoting, and finally com-

compleating, a more pure Eſtabliſhment of his holy Religion than has yet been manifeſted to the World.

L— D— —.

THE able and cunning Stateſman*, by whoſe intereſt and recommendation this Nobleman was raiſed from an Iriſh to an Engliſh Peerage, in this particular inſtance merits my acknowledgments. Poſſeſſing, as he did, a very bad opinion of Mankind, and acting upon the idea of general Depravity to

* The firſt Lord Holland, whoſe Principles, Politics, and Fortune, are not yet forgotten.

forward

forward his deſigns, whatever they might be, it is not matter for ſurpriſe that this Lord is almoſt the only man of ſterling character whom he was concerned in promoting.

I love a virtuous man, and feel a pleaſure in ſupporting him by my Friendſhip, and binding him to me by every act of Regard and Protection; but my reſpect and ſatisfaction are proportionably increaſed, when Virtue diffuſes itſelf through every Member of a Family.

It is to be hoped, that they, who mingle in the middling and inferior claſſes of Life, may often find an Houſehold, the members whereof may be bound together by common

and

and acknowledged Excellence; but, in my experience, and from the information that is permitted to reach me, it wrings my boſom to confeſs, that the examples of Family Virtue, unpolluted by ſome immediate branch of it, are rare indeed. It is on this account that Lord D— — and his Brothers, who form a moſt pleaſing union of amiable qualifications, have been the objects of my regard. They well juſtify the favours they have already received, and will, in future, receive from me *.

L—

* One of this Nobleman's brothers bears a very conſpicuous rank in the Naval Department, and is the perſon to whom his M— — — has thought proper to entruſt the marine education of *Prince William*. The other poſſeſſes the *Deanery of Durham*, the

L— M— —.

I Cannot ſuppoſe that a debauched young Nobleman ſhould be ſuddenly affected with ſcruples at keeping a Miſtreſs; it therefore ſurpriſes me in no ſmall degree, that this noble Lord, who without any laſting tie might have poſſeſſed a faded Beauty, ſhould unite himſelf by marriage to the refuſe of half the Metropolis. He has already had ſome little experience of the World; and her ſyren ſong muſt, ſurely, have loſt thoſe alluring powers which in her youth might have been fatal to

moſt eligible preferment in the Church beneath Prelatic Dignity; to which, however, he in all probability will be ſoon promoted.

him

him who heard it. But, whatever magic may have charmed him to ſuch a Marriage, it cannot but be unfavourable to the Honour of his Life *.

* The late Earls of Bath and Macclesfield were in the ſame predicament; yet I never heard that they were excluded from any enjoyments of Society: nay, Lord F——'s houſe, till his Lady grew into her preſent dotage, was the favourite reſort of the very firſt people. But how is the noble Lord in queſtion ſo violently diſgraced? It cannot be becauſe he prefers the holy ſtate of Marriage to an unchaſte and impure life: ſuch a conduct, ſurely, deſerves the higheſt praiſe. He has alſo made an honeſt woman of a profeſſed harlot; an act which, however it may be condemned by the King of G— B——, F——, and I——, will be illuſtriouſly rewarded by the King of Heaven; for, according to the language of Inſpiration, "He, who turneth a ſinner from the error of his or her way, ſhall ſhine like the ſtars in the firmament for ever and ever."

This infatuated action has already baniſhed him from his country, muſt check

I am rather apprehenſive that the Piety of St. J—'s is not always conſiſtent. It had ſomething of this appearance in its conduct towards the Royal Brothers. While they were running about the town, the diſgrace and torment of every Brothel, they poſſeſſed the favour of the Court, and were received there with the moſt fraternal kindneſs; but the moment they forſake their diſſolute lives, and enter into the Temple of Hymen, they are treated with a neglect equally unparalleled and unpardonable. When the Duke of C———— intrigued with another man's wife, every-thing went on well, and the fine, which was annexed to his dear-bought pleaſure by the Juſtice of his country, was immediately paid by his royal Mother; but when he thought proper to take a wife himſelf, Piety ſhut the door of the Palace againſt him.

Such a Marriage as Lord M——'s may give the Prude an opportunity of repeating the ſtale arguments of her Hypocriſy; it may

check the ardour of his ſpirits, degrade his rank, and for ever exclude him from a ſociety becoming his fortune and dignity *.

may add to the wonders of the day: but I do inſiſt that no place ought to refuſe admittance to Lady M— —, where the profeſſed Adultereſs, where Lady H— — —, and ſuch Demireps as ſhe is, are received with favour.

* This was not the only, nor, perhaps, the principal motive, for his Lordſhip's departure from England; and I have every reaſon to believe that before this page is given to the World he will be returned to it. What Societies he may form in his own country I cannot tell; but in Italy he enjoyed the beſt; and it is well known that Lady M— — was received at the Court of Naples.

E— B— —*.

LENGTH of days may be conſidered as a real bleſſing when it is accompanied with thoſe circumſtances that particulariſed this excellent and venerable Nobleman. Extreme Age, which is, in general, a burthen to the few that reach it, ſat lightly upon him; and, to the cloſing ſcene of it, he poſſeſſed his faculties unimpaired, his ſpirits unbroken, and his name unſullied.

* This Nobleman's Character would have been inſerted with more propriety in a former volume, but the paper that contained it was miſlaid, and it did not fall beneath the Editor's obſervation till this advanced period of the work.

There is ſomewhat of a ſingular and rare felicity in the life of this aged Peer; and I have often thought, that, if it were in my power to command the ſhape, duration, and colour of my Exiſtence, I would faſhion it by that of this Nobleman, in preference to any other that is noticed in the hiſtory of ancient or modern times. Many men have poſſeſſed greater Wealth, higher Power, and more extended Fame; but none that I ever heard or read of, crowded half ſo much real Comfort into Life as Lord B——: and the Happineſs which ſeems to have accompanied him at his entrance on the Theatre of this World, travelled on and did not

quit him till he entered upon the Happineſs of a better.

Every ingredient that can make the draught of life pleaſant, it pleaſed Heaven to pour into the cup which this highly favoured Nobleman was ordained to drink. He poſſeſſed a fortune which commanded the good things of this World, and, among the beſt of them, a ſuperior Independence. His temper was ſufficiently active to give a glow to Life, without hurrying him into thoſe extremes that ſo often betray into Ruin *. Attached to domeſtic comfort,

* This part of Lord Bathurſt's Character is finely illuſtrated by Mr. Pope, in his Epiſtle to him on the Uſe of Riches.

The ſenſe to value Riches, with the art
T' enjoy them, and the Virtue to impart;

To

comfort, he married the woman of his choice, and they were preſerved to each other beyond the common term of human exiſtence †.

His talents and diſpoſitions led him to the ſtudy of Politics, which he alleviated by the cultivation of Letters, and the elegant improvement of his Eſtate. In the former he diſtinguiſhed himſelf as a friend to the Liberties and Conſtitution of his Country: he became the patron

To balance Fortune by a juſt expence,
Join with Œconomy Magnificence,
With Splendor Charity, with Plenty Health;
O teach us, Bathurſt, yet unſpoil'd by Wealth,
The ſecret rare between th'extremes to move,
Of mad Good-Nature and of mean Self-Love.

† They lived together, in the moſt perfect union, for upwards of ſixty-three years.

of

of the ſecond, and was conſidered with reſpect and affection by that incomparable Conſtellation of Wits, Poets, and learned Men, who gave ſuch a luſtre to the early part of the preſent century. His hours of retirement were paſſed in cultivating the latter. In purſuing this favourite employment, he gave a new taſte to rural improvements, which have ſince attained ſuch a wonderful ſtate of Perfection; and he lived to enjoy the ſatisfaction of ſitting beneath the ſhade of thoſe woods which his own hand had planted.

His honours were the reward of his ſervices. But this is not all. It pleaſed Heaven to make him a rare exception

exception to the inſpired deſcription of advanced Age: it was not Labour and Sorrow to him; Health, Chearfulneſs, and Strength of Faculty, accompanied him to the laſt. Honour did not then quit her favourite Votary; ſhe ſmiled upon his hoary head; and before his peaceful reſignation of Life, his Family became poſſeſſed of a two-fold Peerage, and he ſaw his ſon Lord Chancellor of England.

My idea of human Happineſs can hardly reach ſo far as this deſcription: —it is impoſſible to go beyond it*.

L——

* The amiable character of this venerable Nobleman, the honourable figure he made in the World, and the advanced age to which he attained, having combined to render

L— R— —.

THE Peer who ſinks into the mere Country Gentleman forfeits the reſpect due to his Dignity.

render him the object of very general Eſteem, I thought it would not be improper to add a ſhort Sketch of the principal Circumſtances of his Life.

This noble Lord was the ſon of Sir Benjamin Bathurſt, and born in the year 1684. Great attention was paid to his Education, and, at an early period of it, he gave the faireſt hopes of, one day, making a conſiderable figure on the Theatre of Life.—In the year 1705, at the ſollicitation of the Conſtituents of Cirencester, he was elected a Repreſentative in Parliament for that Borough, and juſtified their choice by his Diligence and Integrity. He particularly diſtinguiſhed himſelf in the conteſts and debates which took place relative to an Union between the two Kingdoms; firmly ſupporting

nity. Public Duties have their claim, and private Cares are not to be

ſupporting a meaſure which was calculated to ſtrengthen the vigour of Government, by uniting its powers. — Though he was contented to act a ſubordinate part in the great oppoſition planned by his intimate friends Mr. Harley and Mr. St. John, to undermine the Credit of the Duke of Marlborough and his adherents, he was conſidered as affording no ſmall ſervice to the cauſe by the ſpirited Eloquence he diſplayed in arraigning that General and the Earl of Godolphin, for miſleading the Queen, and laviſhing the treaſures of the Nation in ſplendid but unprofitable victories.

It is greatly to his honour that he was the friend of that great and excellent man Lord Somers; nor was their Friendſhip ever affected by an oppoſition of political principles, but remained in equal force and ſincerity to the end of that Nobleman's life.

In the year 1711 he was advanced, by the Queen, to the dignity of a Peer, by the title of Baron Bathurſt, of Battleſden, in the

be neglected; but it is the due union of theſe two important objects

the county of Bedford; and continued the ſame active part in the Upper as he had already done in the LowerHouſe of Parliament.

In the reign of George the Firſt he ſtepped forth as a formidable opponent to the meaſures of Sir Robert Walpole's Adminiſtration. The perſonal acrimony of the proſecution carried on againſt the Earl of Oxford, Lord Bolingbroke, and the Duke of Ormond, ſtimulated his indignation againſt ſuch vindictive proceedings; and it was he who, with a patriotic boldneſs, declared, in one of his ſpeeches on the occaſion, that the King of a Faction is but the Sovereign of half his ſubjects.

The South-Sea ſcheme having infected the whole Nation with a ſtrange ſpirit of avaritious enterprize, which ended in the diſtreſs and ruin of numerous families, Lord B—— publicly impeached the Directors, whoſe arts had tempted ſo many to their undoing. He repreſented that the national Honour was concerned in ſtripping them

jects which compleats the Patriot Character.

Rural

them of their ill-acquired wealth; and moved for having all the Directors of the South-Sea Company puniſhed, by the forfeiture of their eſtates, for ſuch a notorious act of ſordid Knavery.

When the Bill was brought into the Houſe of Lords againſt Dr. Atterbury, Biſhop of Rocheſter, among the many friends which that learned Prelate's talents, eloquence, and elegant manners, had procured him, was Lord B – —. He ſpoke againſt the Bill with great vehemence and propriety; obſerving, that, if ſuch extraordinary proceedings were countenanced, he ſaw nothing remaining for him and others to do, but to retire to their country-houſes, and there, if poſſible, quietly enjoy their eſtates in the boſom of their families, ſince the leaſt correſpondence or intercepted letter might be made criminal. Then, turning to the Bench of Biſhops, he uttered the well-known and ever-memorable reproach, that he could not account for the inveterate

hatred

Rural eaſe is diſgraceful to any man whoſe ſervice the Public has a right

hatred and malice which ſome perſons bore the ingenious Biſhop of Rocheſter, unleſs it was that they were infatuated like the wild Americans, who fondly believe they inherit, not only the ſpoils, but even the abilities, of the man they deſtroy.—He was one of the Lords who entered a Proteſt againſt the Bill.

With a zeal that did him honour, and which he was ready to exert upon every juſt occaſion, he engaged in an enquiry into the iniquitous ſcene of fraud practiſed by the Directors of the Charitable Corporation which was eſtabliſhed to lend money to the poor upon pledges; but the whole was turned to a moſt wicked ſcheme of enriching particular people, to the ruin of ſuch numbers, that it became a parliamentary concern to relieve the unhappy ſufferers. Lord B— — was extremely active in this humane deſign, and in bringing the guilty Directors to puniſhment. Three of them, who were Members of Parliament, were expelled

right to demand. To quit the duties of Parliament for the ſake of paſſing a ruſtic

expelled the Houſe of Commons on the occaſion.

His Lordſhip concurred, with all his power, in oppoſition to Sir Robert Walpole; and when that Miniſter was forced to quit his employments, Lord Bathurſt was ſworn of the Privy Council, and made Captain of the Gentlemen Penſioners, which poſt he reſigned in 1744. He was appointed Treaſurer to the preſent King, when Prince of Wales, in 1737, and continued in the Liſt of Privy Counſellors at his Acceſſion to the Throne; after which period, on account of his advanced age, he never took any active part in public affairs, but retired to the *Otium cum Dignitate*, which he ſo well deſerved, and ſo happily maintained. It is ſaid, and I believe with truth, that his name was on the Penſion-Liſt for a very large ſum; but the particular motives to that bounty, or the time when it was granted, I do not immediately recollect. However, ſuch men, who throughout their

a ruſtic winter, whoſe dullneſs can only be enlivened by Quadrille with Country

lives have been active in the ſervice of their Country, well deſerve the beſt rewards it has to beſtow.

This Nobleman's Integrity gained him the eſteem even of his opponents, and his many amiable qualities the affection of all who knew him. He added to his public virtues all the good-breeding, politeneſs, and elegance of ſocial intercourſe. Dr. Friend, Congreve, Vanbrugh, Swift, Parnel, Rowe, Addiſon, Steel, Pope, Kneller, Mead, Thompſon, Arbuthnot, Gay, and other Men of Genius, cultivated his friendſhip, were proud of his correſpondence, and formed a frequent Society beneath his roof that *Athens* and Rome never ſurpaſſed—perhaps never equalled.

In the early part of his life he employed much of his leiſure in improving and adorning his Seat and Park at Cirenceſter, in Gloceſterſhire. The buſineſs of Planting, as ſubſervient to the united purpoſes of Ornament and Utility, had been but little, if

at

Country Neighbours, and the weekly homage of a Pariſh-Church, is a ſhameful

at all, conſidered. He adopted this idea with great ſpirit and judgment. The woods formed under his care, and which he lived to ſee flouriſh into maturity, are a ſuperb memorial of his Taſte. He continued to adorn this favourite and large domain to the laſt; and in the cloſing ſummer of his life new decorations were added to its magnificence.

He preſerved his chearfulneſs, vivacity, and hoſpitable diſpoſition to the end; and at this advanced period, his diſcourſe was replete with all the ſprightly turns of his earlier days. The length of time he had ſeen, and the various men he had known, gave ſuch an high and intereſting embelliſhment to his own natural powers of Entertainment, as to render them ſuperior to thoſe which have been the boaſt of other men. Till within a month of his death he never failed every day to take an airing on horſeback: this had been the ſalutary practice of his whole life; and Mr. Pope makes particular mention of this circumſtance, in

ſhameful ſacrifice of thoſe Intereſts which it is a crime to neglect.

a letter written to one of his friends in the year 1732. "Lord Bathurſt," ſays the Poet, "is younger than either of his children, by riding on horſeback for two hours every day before dinner." His eye-ſight had begun to fail him; ſo that he was obliged to employ a Clergyman in his family for any amuſement or information he might wiſh to receive from Books. But this circumſtance, though a melancholy proof of his declining age, did not interfere with his pleaſant humour, or check the flow of his ſpirits: thoſe charming companions of his life attended him to the cloſe of it.

His Lordſhip married Catharine, daughter of Sir Peter Apſley, by whom he had ſeveral children. He was raiſed to the dignity of an Earl in 1711, and lived to ſee his Son created a Peer of the Realm, and ſeveral years Lord High Chancellor of England. His death happened, after a ſhort illneſs, at his ſeat near Cirenceſter, in the ninety-firſt year of his age, and on the 16th of September, 1775.

A Vote

A Vote by Proxy is a miſerable buſineſs at beſt: but is totally unjuſtifiable, unleſs affairs of State, or particular domeſtic obſtacles, prevent a perſonal attendance. The Conſtitution, which allows of Proxies, never intended that they ſhould ſerve the purpoſes of Idleneſs and Negligence. This is a great parliamentary Evil, from which the Senate ſhould be immediately purged, as degradatory of its Honour, and a blot upon its Integrity. The Man who poſſeſſes hereditary Honours ſhould not have the power to ſhift hereditary Duties.

The general uſe of Proxy is diſgraceful, becauſe it betrays a ſpirit of Indolence that is unpardonable,

 diſcovers

diſcovers an unmanly diffidence in transferring one's own judgment to the will of another, or declares the baſeneſs of having bartered away Free-Will and Conſcience to the purpoſes of him who has purchaſed it.

I ſigh over theſe evils; — but, while I wiſh to apply a remedy, the ſituation of Public Affairs, and the temper of the People at this day, tell me not to perplex myſelf with deſigns of ſuch an impracticable nature.

B— — of W— — —.

ANOTHER example of fortunate and happy Longevity preſents itſelf in the perſon of this excellent Prelate. Pleaſing manners, chearful thoughts, and a contented ſpirit, mark the virtue of his paſt life, and may be conſidered as harbingers of his future and great reward.

The moſt venerable object in Nature is a Man crowned with Years, and bleſſed with Wiſdom. His hoary Honours ſurpaſs the ſplendor of a Diadem, and his words are the Oracles of Truth. His being on the brink of another World gives

an affecting weight to whatever he utters while he remains in this. His reverend form commands reſpect from the moſt abandoned; and Profligacy itſelf, though it may diſobey the councils of his kindneſs, will ſhudder at the warnings of his anger.

The circumſtance of Age, whether it relates to human or inanimate Nature, to works of intellectual or manual ſkill, is ever attended with ſolemn and awful reflections. The hoary Mountain that braves the power of Time, and the ſtately Edifice that ſinks beneath it; the mouldering Records of ancient Wiſdom, and the crumbling Buſts of ancient Virtue; alike inſpire thoſe ſerious and affecting ſentiments which call

our

our thoughts from the trifling purſuits of Life. The Misfortunes of Age create a deeper ſympathy even than thoſe of Beauty. The Diſtreſs of Lear has produced more plenteous ſhowers of Sorrow than any other cataſtrophe of Theatrical Repreſentation.

This venerable Prelate has a claim to the ſincere reſpect of his Sovereign; and he enjoys it. His pious care watched over my early years, and pointed out to me the path of Honour; nor has he found me ungrateful. The good things of this World are already in his poſſeſſion: I cannot add to them; but if it will afford him conſolation at the cloſe of life to receive every

mark

mark of my regard and attention, he may be aſſured of them to the completion of it: and when that awful event ſhall have taken place, his remembrance will be dear to me, till I myſelf follow him to the gloomy region where all things are forgotten *.

E—

* The R——l Writer's partial Friendſhip for this aged and Right Reverend Divine is well known, and ariſes very naturally from his ſituation at Leiceſter-Houſe, during his ————'s Minority. I ſhould be diſpoſed alſo to offer my teſtimony of reſpect to his Lordſhip, if I had not been made acquainted with the following unepiſcopal and irrational Declaration he lately made, and to which, I am told, his conduct perfectly correſponds. "I am ſo old," ſaid the Biſhop, "that I conſult nothing but my own eaſe. It is now ſome time ſince I have given up reading and ſtudy of every kind; and find the beſt amuſement, at my time

E— of A— — —.

FRIENDSHIP, that balm of Life, that ſtaple Virtue of human Society, is not without its caprices; and they who ſet the higheſt value upon it, and are the moſt ſenſible of its purity, are not always free from its amiable eccentricities. Reaſon, that ſhould be the Sovereign Directreſs in all our concerns, but eſpecially in a circumſtance of ſo much importance as the choice of our neareſt Connections, frequently leaves us to ourſelves in this important buſineſs, or finds herſelf borne

time of life, is a ſober Game of Cards." —On the very verge of Eternity,—for ſhame, my Lord, for ſhame!

down

down by the impulſe of inſtantaneous and involuntary impreſſions.

There is ſomething very extraordinary and unaccountable in the ſudden operations of Preference and Diſguſt, which we frequently feel at firſt ſight, without knowing the virtues, or being acquainted with the demerits, of thoſe who may be the objects of them: and the mind is ſometimes ſo ſtrongly affected by their influence, as to bear them through Life, without ſuffering future experience to change their colour and diſpoſition. Hence it is that we oftentimes ſee the wiſeſt men reſt for ſupport on the weakeſt, and that the beſt become the dupes of the worſt of Mankind. This irreſiſtable

ſiſtable infatuation in favour of inferior characters has too frequently proved the bane of Private Honour, and the ſcourge of Public Virtue.

The ſudden emotions of favourable as well as unfavourable prejudice which preſent themſelves to the view of daily experience, not only in our own minds, but in the open conduct and ſentiments of others, have been conſidered and inſiſted upon, to the degradation of Human Nature; and much of the Philoſophy which conſiſts in lowering the Human Character has been built on this foundation. I ſhall not enter into the queſtion; but conclude, that, whenever the mind of Man is thus diſgraced by inconſiderate

ſiderate Attachment, or blind Averſion, it muſt ariſe from the habit of leaving frail Nature to itſelf, without calling in thoſe aids which would preſerve it at all times from ſuch haſty and impetuous determinations in favour of or againſt any opinion of Men or Things.

The E— of A— — — was the boſom friend of an honoured Relation of my own, whoſe great Character commanded the Reſpect, and whoſe Princely Virtues had won the Regard, of the Nation. The recommendation of ſuch an illuſtrious Patron raiſed his Lordſhip to a ſituation, to which partial Affection alone could think him equal. The People ſhewed their good ſenſe in the diſ-

diſſatisfaction which they diſcovered at this appointment; but it was impoſſible for me to turn my back upon the counſels which ſo ſtrongly urged it. Happily for his Country and himſelf, the noble Lord proved the favourite of Fortune; and the ſucceſs which attended upon his ſervices very naturally checked the ſeverity of obſervation which ſuch an imprudent confidence deſerved. The zeal of his Royal Friend, when alive, raiſed him to Opulence; and, from a reſpect to that Friendſhip, I conferred upon him the only honours of his departed Patron that he could receive *.

* The late Duke of Cumberland's partiality to this Nobleman and his family is well known: but, perhaps, every one may

may not be acquainted with the manner in which he and ſome of the more ſubordinate favourites got rid of their formidable rival, the preſent Lord, then Colonel, Townſhend, and ſecured his Royal Highneſs to themſelves. Every one has heard of Lord T— —'s talent for Caricature; and moſt people have ſeen examples of it. This wicked gift he was artfully perſuaded to exerciſe on his Royal Protector; of whoſe unwieldy bulk he took the ſarcaſtic outline, and ſketched him in the attitude of lying upon his belly with his breeches down, diſplaying the two Hemiſpheres of the Globe delineated upon his ample poſteriors. This portrait was conveyed away, and maliciouſly ſhewn to the Prince, who reſented ſuch indecent ridicule by withdrawing his friendſhip from the incautious but innocent Deſigner.

Lord A— — — was very poor; and the command of the expedition againſt the Havannah gave ſuch a proſpect of wealth, that the Duke moſt anxiouſly ſupported the recommendation of him to fill that important poſt. Every-thing conſpired to make him ſucceſsful. His good fortune triumphed

over

over his military incapacity, and he returned to England laden with riches.

He was ſuppoſed to have a real affection for his Royal Patron, and is ſaid to have given very public proofs of it, when he ſaw him at play, ſurrounded with Mr. V— —, Lord ——, and ſuch Vultures, who did not fail to take advantage of his lethargic habits, at the cloſe of Life, to pilfer and to rob him. On theſe occaſions he was uſed to manifeſt a very friendly concern, and ſometimes delivered his ſentiments of the buſineſs in a public manner, and in the preſence of thoſe who were the gainers in it. This might be ſpirited and proper, but is not to be reconciled to the following circumſtance, which diſplays a temper of mind by no means tinged with the colours of Tenderneſs and Affection. At the time of his Royal Highneſs's death, his Lordſhip was ſitting for his picture to Sir Joſhua Reynolds; and on the King's informing him that he ſhould ſucceed to the vacant Blue Ribbon, he thought that this circumſtance ſhould be immediately communicated to the Painter, that the Portrait might receive ſuch a principal embelliſhment.

Bishop of Exeter *.

TO the ſame protection, which had been ſo favourable to his Brother, this Right Reverend and Honourable Divine owes his promotion to the Prelacy and other valuable Dignities of the Church. A powerful Friend ſtood in the ſtead of Eloquence, Abilities, Learning, and Piety. With a mediocrity of ta-

For this purpoſe, he paid an immediate viſit to Sir Joſhua; and, after having told him to dip his pencil deep in *Garter Blue*, he ſpoke of the embalming the deceaſed Prince, or, as his Lordſhip termed it, the cutting him up, with the moſt open inſenſibility.

* Theſe ſtrictures do not regard the preſent learned and excellent Biſhop of Exeter; the object of them is the Prelate, his immediate predeceſſor.

lents,

lents, which would never have raiſed him beyond the Curacy of a Village, and with a dearth of Knowledge, which would have diſgraced the Uſher of a Pariſh-School, he has attained the Honours of the Mitre †.

In the courſe of theſe obſervations, I have had too frequent occaſion to lament the enmity between the intereſts of Religion and the efforts of State-Neceſſity. My concern is not diminiſhed in contem-

† When this Divine was ordained a Prieſt, he could not tranſlate a common paſſage in *Cornelius Nepos*; and the firſt time he read Prayers in the Houſe of Lords, as Junior Biſhop, the few Peers who were preſent expreſſed their aſtoniſhment at hearing even the Lord's Prayer rendered unintelligible, by the illiterate manner in which it was pronounced.

plating the Character now before me: and I find it a ſad ſtumbling-block to my deſigns of promoting the higheſt intereſts of Mankind, when they, whoſe ſituation, rank, and character, give importance to their recommendations, manifeſt no concern but in procuring a proviſion for their friends and dependents, without paying a common attention to their virtues or qualifications*.

Some

* An Anecdote occurs to me which fully juſtifies this obſervation. The late Lord Northington, when Chancellor of England, preſented an ancient Clergyman to ſome vacant preferment; who, being already in poſſeſſion of a Vicarage, found it neceſſary to appear at Lambeth-Palace, to fulfil the uſual buſineſs of writing a few thoughts in Latin, upon a given ſubject, previous to the obtaining a Diſpenſation to hold two Livings. This poor old Gentleman, having long

Some men are governed by falſe notions of Honour, and think that promiſes, however raſh or inconſiderate they may be, muſt be ſtrictly performed; others barter their Power for ſome baſe object of Self-

long forgot his Claſſics, did not perform his exerciſe to Archbiſhop Secker's ſatisfaction, and was, of courſe, refuſed the neceſſary teſtimonial. In this dilemma he applied to his noble Patron, who immediately paid a viſit to Lambeth, and, after ſome altercation with the Moſt Reverend Prelate, aſſured him, that, though the Latin might not be good in his Palace, he would undertake to prove it excellent in the great building on the other ſide of the river, meaning Weſtminſter-Hall; and recommended his Grace to forward all the neceſſary formalities for his friend without delay. The Archbiſhop indulged himſelf, for ſome ſhort time, in complaining of a very diſreſpectful treatment on the part of the Chancellor, but cauſed no further impediment to the Diſpenſation.

Intereſt; and it ſometimes happens, I fear, that ſenſual Gratifications give the procurers of them a right to claim, perhaps inſiſt, on the friendſhip of thoſe whoſe criminal pleaſures they have promoted *.— Theſe are ſore evils; and, in the brighteſt moment of my hopes, I cannot ſee a remedy for them.

* I ſhould be glad to know by what means Doctor T——t not only obtained a Deanery, &c. but was once ſo near the Lawn; and to what happy concurrence of things Mr. J—— G— owes his promotion to the Ermine?

L—

L— M— — —.

IF there is any-thing which demands the ſober, calm, and deliberate exertions of Reaſon, it is a change of that Religion wherein we have been brought up and educated. To deſert the principles of our Forefathers from any other motive than that of the cleareſt conviction, diſcovers a baſe and moſt abandoned Character, that is not worthy the reſpect, confidence, or even ſociety of an honeſt man.

The generality of Mankind are diſpoſed to ſuſpect Converts of every denomination, but eſpecially thoſe who renounce the Roman Catholic

Church; and this ſuſpicion is, in ſome degree, to be juſtified, by the frequency of their recourſe to the faith they had deſerted, when the hour of Death approaches. This circumſtance has been ſometimes uſed as an argument againſt the zeal for making Converts: and there is ſomething in the idea; for, when temporal motives, and worldly intereſts, are employed in this pious buſineſs, the end of Converſion will be little more than the beginning of Hypocriſy *.

The

* The circumſtance of a well-known Shropſhire Baronet's becoming, ſome years ago, a Member of the Roman Catholic Church, juſt occurs to me; and, as it is a ſingular event in the hiſtory of Converſion, I ſhall beg leave to relate it. Sir Richard — —, like many an honeſt man, had little

or

The Education of the Romiſh Church is, in general, too attentively purſued, not to root its principles very deeply indeed in the human mind; and the numberleſs artful as well as flattering circumſtances

or no Religion; and Lady Anne his wife, a pious, good woman, was very uneaſy at the melancholy ſtate of her huſband's ſoul: ſhe, therefore, uſed all the means that her affection ſuggeſted, to turn his thoughts to a matter of ſo much importance; and, at length, ſhe ſo far ſucceeded, as to make him apply himſelf to religious conſiderations. But his enquiries took a turn which her Ladyſhip little expected; for, with the aſſiſtance of an artful Prieſt, whom he conſulted on the buſineſs, they ended in making him a Papiſt. The good Lady Anne, who would rather have had Sir Richard damned as a Proteſtant than ſaved as a Catholic, grew ſo outrageous upon the occaſion, that ſhe inſiſted upon an immediate ſeparation, which continued till Death divorced them for ever.

which

which compoſe its Doctrines and Ceremonies, make the difficulty of extirpating its prejudices extremely great: ſo that it has often happened, in turning a Papiſt from the error of his way, that all his religious principles have been weakened, if not totally deſtroyed. But the Bigotry of Papal Faith begins to give way; and the Light of Reaſon and good Senſe beams forth to diſſipate the clouds of Ignorance and Superſtition that ſo long involved it. It may be hoped, therefore, that many pious Members of that Church may be brought to profeſs a purer and more rational Faith, in all honeſty and godly ſobriety.

This noble Lord has renounced the errors of the Romiſh Religion, and

and poſſeſſes thoſe privileges of his rank from which his Anceſtors were excluded. He is a decent, amiable character; and there is no reaſon to doubt but that a full and rational conviction led him to become a Member of the Proteſtant Communion eſtabliſhed in theſe Kingdoms*.

E—

* Lord M——— publicly declares that his converſion was produced by the pious zeal of the Curate of his pariſh, whoſe ſucceſsful endeavours have been bountifully rewarded by the Metropolitan of the Church he has ſo highly benefited, as well as by the Biſhop of the Dioceſe where they were ſo happily exerted. The noble Convert's particular favour and friendſhip wait alſo upon the Phyſician of his Soul. His Lordſhip's ſincerity, however, is not entirely free from ſuſpicion. In his neighbourhood it is very generally thought that he will not depart this life without the healing Ceremonies of the

E— of C———.

THERE are ſome men who climb to Honour I know not how, and are rewarded with Benefits I know not why. Miniſters are frequently as cautious in hiding their deſigns from their Maſter as from the Public. There are ſecrets which he is not to penetrate, and ſeaſons

the Church which he has deſerted. Theſe doubts do not ariſe from any inattention of the noble Lord to his new Religion, as he is very exemplary in fulfilling the duties of it; but from the conſideration that an appearance of temporal Intereſt has mingled in the buſineſs. It is well known, that, in his parliamentary capacity, he is ſubſervient to the will of the Miniſter; for which, and his neighbouring Borough, that is alſo at the diſpoſal of the Court, his Lordſhip receives a penſion of 2000l. per annum.

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when he is to be deceived; and he finds it neceſſary to ſubmit. There are many men whoſe faces as well as merits are more familiar to me than thoſe of this Nobleman, who have never obtained the moiety of thoſe Honours and Emoluments which have been beſtowed upon him. This is a matter which, at times, has added to the weight of my daily perplexity *.

L—

* He was a convert, which, I am ſorry to ſay, has been, for ſome years paſt, a very powerful recommendation at the Court of St. J——. The Earl of B— began by converting his Brethren the Jacobites; and it would have been no ill ſcheme, if he had emp'oyed ſuch means in promoting it as would not have diſguſted the old, firm friends of the Crown. This Nobleman was in Oppoſition; but, on the death of Mr. Grenville, he went over to the Court with Mr.

L—— D——.

IN public Aſſemblies, as well as private Societies, if every individual who compoſed them ſhould poſſeſs the talent of Speaking, and a forward Spirit, it would be impoſſible that the buſineſs of the former could be regulated, or the pleaſures of the latter enjoyed. In ſuch a caſe, the Hour-Glaſs muſt govern the Orator, the Imagination muſt yield its paintings, Fancy drop its flowers, and Amplification be ex-

Mr. Wedderburne. Since that period he has been raiſed to the Dignity of an Earl; and, on the death of Lord Strange, was appointed Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaſter; a place worth upwards of 3000l. per annum, with a very large Eccleſiaſtical Patronage.

punged

punged from the Rhetorical Calendar, while he would gain the Palm of Eloquence who was able to compreſs the greateſt quantity of Argument into the ſmalleſt ſpace.

The World could not exiſt with an equality of talent among its inhabitants. It would be unable to ſuſtain the confuſion, which is neceſſarily prevented by the ſubordinate and varied conditions of Mankind. But real Happineſs and real Honour are of no ſtation; and a man may find them both in his own breaſt, and in the circle of private Friendſhip. While he may fear to have the one diſturbed, his deſire may be equally diſtant from having the other augmented, by preſenting himſelf

himſelf on a forward part of the public ſcene.

Every man muſt be finally his own Judge; and, though I have ſometimes thought, and, on particular occaſions, declared, that a ſilent, inactive Peer is a diſgraceful character, the opinion that floats upon the preſent moment is leſs ſevere. The meaneſt ſoldier in an army is capable of ſomething, and may deſerve reward *.

* Little, I believe, is known of this Nobleman, but that he is the Brother-in-Law of Lord Camden.

L— S—.

THE buſineſs of a foreign Court is an excellent nurſery for the domeſtic employments of the State. This Nobleman, who has ſerved a pretty long diplomatic apprentice-ſhip, ſhould be well qualified to fill ſome or other of them. Some Politicians of reſpectable character have expreſſed their doubts whether a Foreign Education is eſſential to a Firſt Miniſter; while others have poſitively declared it to be an abſolute impediment, as it diſpoſes to ſchemes, projects, and innovations; and is apt to divert the thoughts from that internal, domeſtic Knowledge, which is the one thing needful for a prin-

cipal Stateſman. Sir Robert Walpole is the ordinary example produced on this occaſion, who was remarkable for his inattention to, and, ſome will aſſert, his ignorance of, foreign concerns; and whoſe grand object was to preſerve his Country from the troubles, dangers, and diſturbances of War. In this, it is true, he ſucceeded; and, for upwards of twenty years, maintained his ground againſt the moſt powerful, reſpectable, and beſt arranged Oppoſition this Country ever ſaw, or, perhaps, will ever ſee again.

I do but glance at the merits of the queſtion. Much may be ſaid on both ſides; and Lord Chatham, whoſe proſperous Adminiſtration aroſe,

aroſe, among other cauſes, from his Knowledge of foreign Affairs, may be oppoſed to Sir Robert Walpole. Perhaps it may be ſatisfactory to determine that Peace and War require two different ſpecies of Miniſters *.

[THERE

* Since the above obſervations were written, this Nobleman has been appointed one of the Secretaries of State; not, I ſhould imagine, from any particular merit of his own, but that he may be the channel of his uncle the E— of M——'s counſels. He is a good ſcholar, and would rather pore over a Claſſic Author than ſit down even to the deſk of a Miniſter. Perſons who are eminent for a literary taſte do but ſeldom make Men of Buſineſs. Old Admiral Corniſh was of the ſame opinion. After the ſiege of the Manillas, he found Sir William Draper turned aſide from the track of Negotiation to the fields of the Muſes: the General was in actual diſpute with the old fox of a Biſhop about a paſſage in Virgil,

[THERE appear to have been ſome long and very elaborate Strictures on the Character of the Earl of Bath, but the part of the manuſcript whereon they are written is ſo

inſtead of ſettling the buſineſs of the Ranſom upon ſuch a foundation as to have prevented the fraud that followed it. Lord S—— was diſpoſed alſo to be of a love-ſick diſpoſition; the worſt quality a Miniſter of State can poſſeſs. The Secrets of the Cabinet are never ſafe in the breaſt of ſuch a man: and, it is ſaid, there was a time when old Lady H———, by means of her Daughter's charms, might have known the hiſtory of the Court of France; —but the young Lady turned her back upon his Excellence. He has ſince married a daughter of the C—— Family, of more youth, and equal beauty, who, in the opinion of the World, has effectually cured his love ſick temper, and qualified him to be a confidential Miniſter.

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mutilated, that, after much pains, I found it impoſſible to render them complete. Among other circumſtances of his life, there appears to have been an account of all his Writings, printed and in manuſcript; among the latter of which, mention is made of particular Sermons, preached at the Chapel-Royal, by Doctor D— —, one of his Majeſty's Chaplains. My curioſity was very much awakened to a declaration, which was very legible, that this Nobleman preferred the Conſtitution of France to that of his own Country, and the Roman Catholic Religion to any branch of the Reformed Church. It i noreover aſſerted that he died in the Communion

of it. The greater part of the proofs were obliterated: the active part he took againſt Mr. Bower, and the particular confidence he placed in certain domeſtics of that perſuaſion, were the only teſtimonies in favour of this opinion that remained. Some particular circumſtances alſo, relative to the ſudden and ſingular breaking off Lord Pulteney's intended marriage with Miſs Nichols, now Lady Dartmouth, as well as certain arrangements on the death of that Nobleman, ſeem to have been much conſidered; but it was impoſſible to reſtore the mutilated parts in ſuch a manner as to juſtify their publication.

This part of the manuſcript concluded

concluded with a comparative view of the foregoing Nobleman's Character with that of the late Duke of Newcaſtle. All I could collect from the imperfect paper was, that the one had begun life with an eſtate of 30,000l. per annum, and, in the ſupport of Government, &c. had reduced it to an income of 5000l.; while the other, who began the World with a rent-roll of 500l. had increaſed it by various means to a revenue of 30,000l. And, it is adde, that theſe reſpective circumſtances were, at the cloſe of their lives, the boaſt of them both.]

Sir J— R— —.

THIS venerable Baronet is the oldeſt Member of the Privy Council, and the laſt of thoſe men who maintained the manners and appearance of times long paſt. He looks back, with a very diſtinctive memory, to all the principal events of this century, in ſome of which he is well known to have taken an active part. He was Aid-de-Camp to Prince Eugene, in Queen Anne's wars, and upwards of forty years a Member of the Houſe of Commons, where he maintained a very leading conſideration. He is a kind of political Patriarch, whom I regard with a very reſpectful eſteem, and I ſhould be glad to give him a public teſtimony

mony of it: but, as his advanced life has induced him to bid adieu to the buſineſs of the World, I do not expect to ſee him any more.

The young men, who are entering upon the Theatre of Life, would do well to attend to the characters of thoſe venerable perſons who are about to quit it. They may be conſidered as the oracles of paſt times; who, having outlived the rage of party-zeal, and buried their animoſities as well as prepoſſeſſions in oblivion, are qualified to give the beſt inſtruction that buſy and ambitious youth could receive to conduct them to Honour *.

THE

* This worthy, old, conſtitutional Baronet is ſince dead, at a very advanced period

The Hon. Mr. S——.

Parental Rigour is not among the general Vices, nor Filial Duty among the ordinary Virtues, of the preſent Age. Upon the whole, it appears that Parents are too much diſpoſed to Indulgence, and Chil-

riod of life. His great object had been a Peerage; which, however, he could not obtain; and had the additional mortification to ſee many perſons, greatly his inferiors in talents, fortune, and integrity, promoted to it. In his public capacity he was a zealous Whig, and a bold Aſſertor of the Liberties of the Engliſh Conſtitution; but in private life he was not without a ſhare of Tory principles. The zeal for Freedom was very offenſive to him in the Borough for which he was choſen the Repreſentative, but never without oppoſition, in ſeveral ſucceſſive Parliaments. This is no uncommon Character.

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dren too apt to neglect the due returns of Gratitude. Insurances upon Fathers Lives, Wagers upon their Deaths, with other daily arrangements of a similar nature, mark the fashionable state of Filial Affection. But, though Parental Fondness may sometimes demand restraint, there comes a period, when the duty and prudent conduct of Children should be rewarded with a generous confidence, and the means of enjoying Life be readily granted them *.

A Parent,

* The first Lord Holland was a singular example of Parental Fondness, which he indulged in the extreme: and, perhaps, to this weakness may be attributed the misery of his closing life, when he found himself, as it were, in danger of Beggary from the extravagance of his children. He is well known to have honoured, without hesitation, a bill of his eldest son, when abroad, for

A Parent, jealous of his Son, is a miſerable character, unworthy of Pity, and beneath Contempt; and, ſhould he keep him under the hatches of Authority, and in the narrowneſs of Want, at a time when he has a kind of right to ſhare in his future patrimony, the World will ſurely juſtify him in the opinion, that his Father's life is of too long a duration.

There is a medium in this, as well as in every other branch of human

for 30,000l. and while the preſent Mr. Charles Fox was at Eton College, he ſent for him to paſs his vacation at Paris, appointed him a brilliant equipage, gave him a powerful command of money, and is ſaid to have indulged the lively paſſions of the forward youth in all the gratifications of that luxurious and debauched Metropolis.

conduct:

conduct: but when a man, whose age is so far extended as to see his son grow into years, keeps him within the confined bounds of careless Youth, and withholds from him the means of forming those Connections which render Life happy; such a conduct will justify the utmost stretch of filial Impatience.

This honourable Gentleman, who represents in Parliament the second City in the Kingdom, and is arrived to that age when he might have had children marriageable, sits down at his Father's table, in all the misery of illiberal dependence, without having one of his own, where he can invite a friend, or enjoy himself.

An ungrateful Child is a bitter curse

curſe to a tender Parent; and a ſelfiſh Parent is an oppreſſive weight upon the happineſs of his Offspring*.

G—— G— —.

THIS Right Honourable Gentleman, whom I ſhall pronounce to have been a great Mini-

* The old Lord, at length, departed in peace, and the young Gentleman, who has waited ſo long as to become an elderly Peer, has ſucceeded to the honours, eſtate, and penſion of his Father. He is a worthy man, and his lot is a very hard one; but he was not born to be his own maſter. He is, indeed, free from parental Rule; but has ſuffered himſelf to ſink into all the ſlavery of Petticoat Government. Perhaps he had been ſo long accuſtomed to Leading-Strings, that Lady S—— does not think it prudent to let him go alone.

ſter,

ſter, and who, I believe, will receive that character from poſterity, had the confidence of his Maſter while he held the reins of Government, and continued to poſſeſs his eſteem after he choſe to quit them.

This Country owes Mr. G— — very great obligations; and though, like other men, he was not without his failings, they proceeded rather from a mind, in ſome degree, narrowed by its early purſuits, than from any natural defect of underſtanding, or perverſeneſs of diſpoſition. He poſſeſſed ſtrong and manly faculties, with the courage that accompanies Integrity, and the ſhrewdneſs that is too often aſſociated with very oppoſite qualities. To theſe may be added

added an unwearied attention to the duties of his Emloyments: they alone engroſſed his thoughts, animated his zeal, and gave motion to his actions. The varied and arduous buſineſs of his important Office, which had borne down many of thoſe who preceded, as well as ſome who have followed him in it, was a play-thing, as it were, in the hands of this Herculean Stateſman. The burthen of ſevere Duty, when laid upon him, obtained the appearance of eaſy Pleaſure.

There was a part of this Miniſter's Character that called forth, as it highly deſerved, my regard and admiration; which was, an honeſt and noble Ambition to fix his Reputation,

tion, not in the parade of Greatneſs, or pomp of Power, but by a regular, minute, and effectual diſcharge of his Duty. He may be truly ſaid, in the language of Scripture, to have riſen early, and have taken his reſt late, and to have eaten the bread of Carefulneſs. Uneaſy amid the form and flattery of Levees, he was eager to employ his few moments of leiſure in thoſe Enquiries which, while they rendered his labour ſuperior to any of his ſubordinate Officers, gave him a keen intelligence of everything belonging to his ſituation. And after all, perhaps, it might be this religious attention to every branch of his department which occaſioned what have been conſidered as the errors of his Adminiſtration.

Bred to the Law, and binding down his early faculties to the narrow line of a ſingle profeſſion, which, ſhackled with preciſe Forms and determined Modes of Proceeding, is calculated to oppoſe an enlargement of mind, even in the preſent enlightened ſtate of it; but, in the day of Mr. G——'s ſtudies, was more particularly hoſtile to that univerſal Spirit which is neceſſary to perfect the Character of a great Miniſter; he laboured under the inconvenience of its inveterate habits. In the common courſe of human Affairs, a frame of mind, produced by ſuch an education, may be of very general utility; but in the exigencies of States, and the vaſt occurrences of Kingdoms, which often ſoar above the

the forms, and mock the precedents of former times, ſomething more than the moſt perfect official Wiſdom is required. A Capacity of the utmoſt enlargement is eſſential to the due regulation of an important criſis.

Theſe circumſtances, co-operating with a moſt rigid Integrity, produced that unyielding, inflexible temper, which is not quite adapted to the changeful nature of State concerns. As Mr. G— — ardently wiſhed and was conſcious that he took every method to be ſecure from Error, he might naturally perſuade himſelf that he had obtained his object: and, having formed certain political Principles, which he be-

lieved to be right, and in which he was not generally miſtaken, he could not be induced to give them up, or even admit of their different modification, in order to ſuit them to the varying nature of things. Hence aroſe the failings of this great Miniſter: hence * * * *
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SIR

† Theſe obſervations appear to be formed with great Juſtice, and a real Knowledge of the Character which occaſioned them. From the failings of this Miniſter may be deduced the

Sir J—— Y——.

A Faithful, diligent, and able Servant is among the firſt, as it is one of the rareſt bleſſings of Life.

the impolitic Law to annihilate Smuggling among the Americans; the ſeveral others, equally inconſiderate, which followed it; and, at laſt, the unfortunate Stamp-Act, which has been the ſource of ſuch fatal conſequences to our Country and to Europe. But his motives to this unfortunate meaſure were not without a reaſonable foundation; and it would be the moſt flagrant act of Injuſtice to load his Character with the miſeries which have ariſen from it. From the beſt information on the ſubject, I am perſuaded that this Law would have been, at the very firſt, received by the Americans, if ſome very grievous and unprecedented forms of Collection, which I wonder Mr. G——'s ſagacity did not diſcover, had not accompanied its execution: and, before a

Life. All ranks of Men, who have an inferior in whom they muſt confide,

more eaſy arrangement could be ſettled, Mr. Pitt, at that time in a ſtate of open and inveterate rupture with the Miniſter, exerted the utmoſt ardour of his abilities againſt it, gave a new turn to the opinions of Mankind concerning it, and furniſhed the Americans themſelves with arguments which would not have immediately occurred to them, without his aſſiſtance. With all my enthuſiaſm and veneration for his great Character, I do, from my ſoul, believe that the deſtruction of the Stamp-Act was determined by him, becauſe it was Mr. G——'s work. During the domeſtic diſagreement to which I have alluded, Mr. P— treated, on all occaſions, the Name, Opinions, and Perſon of his Right Honourable Relation with an Indignity he did not deſerve.—The circumſtance which gave to that Gentleman the title of *Gentle Shepherd* is too remarkable not to be univerſally remembered. Superior as the abilities of the then Great Commoner were, he cannot be

ſide, from the Mechanic at his Anvil to the Sovereign on his Throne, muſt be ſenſible of this truth; and a great part of the Complaints of Mankind bear an ample teſtimony to it.

Without entering into an enquiry afflicting to a generous mind, it muſt be acknowledged that the Serving

be juſtified in treating ſuch a Character as Mr. G— — with contempt.

That Stateſman's name commands reſpect from every Inhabitant of theſe Kingdoms, for a zealous, active, indefatigable, and honeſt Adminiſtration of Public Affairs. His errors are ſuch as will be pardoned by every reflecting perſon; and when the Law which he left as a legacy to his Country, that, with ſo much Wiſdom, regulates the deciſion of diſputed Elections, is thrown into the ſcale, they will be entirely forgotten.

Claſs of People are an ungrateful race. Servitude, however alleviated or however rewarded, ſeems to be, as it were, naturally accompanied with Ingratitude; and he whoſe profeſſion, pride, or rank, makes it neceſſary to employ the greateſt number of menial Inferiors, will have a more enlarged experience of it.

It has been matter of frequent ſurpriſe to me, that, in the many enumerations of Life's evils and calamities which daily proceed from the experience of Mankind, the uneaſineſs which ſo univerſally ariſes from Infidelity, Idleneſs, and Ingratitude, in the ſerving claſs of people, is ſo ſeldom, or, at leaſt, ſo ſlightly, mentioned: and yet, perhaps,

haps, the ordinary Tranquillity of Life never meets with ſuch general interruption as from the Cabals, Inſults, and Miſconduct, of the different ranks of domeſtic and other Servants *.

Becauſe

* The late Earl Temple, ſpeaking in defence of a Bill, in the Houſe of Lords, for taking away from Peers, &c. the power of protecting their Servants, and others, againſt Arreſts for Debt, gave this remarkable opinion: "I cannot ſee, my Lords, "any material inconvenience that can ariſe "to any noble Lord in this Houſe, from "giving up a right to ſhield domeſtic Ser-"vants, &c. againſt the ordinary proceſs "of Law. The Juſtice of the meaſure "propoſed is evident to every-one; and "what have this rank of people done to "deſerve the privilege of being in any de-"gree protected from the juſt demands of "a Creditor. This Bill may ſerve to check "the Inſolence that prevails among them. "I am ſure, my Lords, that much of the

"anxiety

"Becauſe I will have no Enemy near me," ſays an Eaſtern Writer, "I will, therefore, keep no Servant." The Philoſopher may form this reſolution and practiſe it; but it cannot be extended beyond his retired and ſolitary character. The idea, nevertheleſs, is founded in Juſtice. Servants are too often the Spies, too frequently the Robbers, and but very ſeldom indeed the Friends, of their Maſters.

From fifteen years even unto fourſcore
Here have I liv'd,——

is the language of Shakeſpeare's old

"anxiety of my life has been occaſioned
"by them; and, I believe, there are many
"noble Lords in this Houſe who will agree
"with me in the declaration, that we
"ſhould be much happier than we are if
"we could bring ourſelves to clean our
"own ſhoes."

and

and faithful Servant; but how few are the examples of that Diligence and Fidelity which have merited ſuch an honourable length of Confidence! Honeſty is not the only quality neceſſary in perſons of this character; ſome degree of Ability is alſo requiſite: but as Mankind, in deſpair, ſeem to have given up the expectation of finding them united, it has, at length, become a general queſtion in the World, whether it is better to be ſerved by a Knave or a Fool; by perſons whoſe actions muſt be followed with a ſuſpicious vigilance, or by thoſe whoſe integrity may be unſuſpected, but muſt be hourly informed of their Duty.

If theſe are evils in Private Life,

and

and very great ones they certainly are, how muſt their force and inconvenience be increaſed in the Public Family of the State, where ſo large a number of perſons muſt be employed, under ſuch a variety of views and intereſts; where the moſt important Confidence muſt be placed, and where there are ſuch frequent and almoſt irreſiſtable temptations to betray it. Some of theſe, as Governors, Ambaſſadors, and Viceroys, who are removed from the check of immediate obſervation, muſt, from the diſtance of their ſtations, be furniſhed with very enlarged powers, in order to execute their truſts with diſpatch and with effect.

Among

Among this rank of Servants employed by the Crown, there is no one who more highly deſerves the Applauſe of his Country, and his Sovereign, than the Ambaſſador at the Hague. He is, at once, able, diligent, and faithful; and not only renders himſelf amiable, by his pleaſing manners, but, by his wiſe and prudent conduct, gives Conſequence to, and reflects a Luſtre upon, the Crown he repreſents.

This Miniſter's Character is a ſubject whereon I reflect with much ſatisfaction *.

* The Note at the end of theſe Obſervations was very long, and ſeemed to require a further Illuſtration: I have, therefore, changed its place, and given it to the Reader in the form of *A curſory Account of the diplomatic Repreſentation of Great-Britain*, brought down to the preſent period.

A curſory

A Curſory Account of the DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION *of* GREAT-BRITAIN, *&c.*

THE Dignity and Intereſt of every Nation, eſpecially of thoſe who rank high in the ſcale of Empire, are deeply concerned in the Character and Abilities of the perſons it deputes, in a Repreſentative Capacity, to other Countries. The ancients were particularly attentive to this circumſtance of National Honour; and the more politic States of modern Ages have not failed to follow ſo wiſe an example. Indeed, there cannot be a greater mark of the corruption and approaching declenſion of any people

that

than when ſo little attention is paid to National Dignity by thoſe who govern them, as to appoint men to the important charge of Ambaſſadors to Foreign Courts, who have not either the virtues or the talents which can do it honour, and may poſſeſs the failings or vices that will diſgrace it.

The Character of an Ambaſſador is conſidered in a moſt reſpectable light by all Mankind, in every part of the Globe. For him all Nations have mutually conſented to relax their domeſtic Laws and Civil Polity. He riſes ſuperior to thoſe Obligations which bind the firſt ranks of Men in the Country where he reſides. He may be ſaid to repreſent

ſent Empire; and it is from Laws framed on purpoſe for his Office that he receives his privileges and protection *. His Employment places

* Political Laws demand that every man ſhould be ſubject to the Natural and Civil Courts of the Country where he reſides, and to the cenſure of the Sovereign. The Law of Nations requires that Princes ſhould ſend Ambaſſadors; and a reaſon, drawn from the nature of things, does not permit theſe Ambaſſadors to depend on the Sovereign to whom they are ſent, or on his Tribunals. They are the voice of the Prince who ſends them, and this voice ought to be free. No obſtacle ſhould hinder the execution of their Office. They may frequently offend, becauſe they ſpeak for a man entirely independent. They might be wrongfully accuſed, if they were liable to be puniſhed for crimes: if they could be arreſted for Debts, theſe might be forged. Thus a Prince, who has naturally a bold and enterpriſing ſpirit, would ſpeak by the mouth of a man who had every-thing to fear.

places him in the higheſt rank, introduces him to frequent communication with the Sovereign Power, and gives him an acknowledged Precedency of the principal perſons of the State:—ſo that, beſides the diſgrace which is reflected upon the Prince by an improper appointment to the Diplomatic Capacity, it renders him alſo liable to the imputation of offering a groſs Affront to the Court where he ſuffers an unworthy Miniſter to repreſent him.

fear. We muſt be guided, with reſpect to Ambaſſadors, by reaſons drawn from the Law of Nations, and not by thoſe derived from Political Law. But if they make an ill uſe of their Repreſentative Character, a ſtop may be put to it by ſending them back. They may even be accuſed before their Maſter, who thus becomes their Judge or their Accomplice.

It was not always the cuſtom to appoint permanent Embaſſies from one Court to another: they never took place, in former times, but in Negociations of the laſt importance, and laſted no longer than the buſineſs which had occaſioned them. This circumſtance evidently gave more weight to the Character of an Ambaſſador than it at preſent poſſeſſes; when it is thought to be a neceſſary part of good policy among Kings, to maintain Miniſters in foreign Courts, notwithſtanding the immenſe Expence which it occaſions, and the kind of Diſcredit which the habitual reſidence of the public Agents of different Princes occaſions*.

The

* The buſineſs of being punctually informed of what is going on in foreign Cabinets

The Kingdom of Great-Britain, from the vaſt extent of its Empire, the infinite variety of its Intereſts, the amazing circuit of its Commerce, and the jealous eye with which its ſplendid Proſperity and commanding Power is beheld by every Potentate in Europe, ſhould make its Sovereign moſt minutely attentive to the Wiſdom of its Diplomatic Arrangements. But this is not all: among many ſubordinate and weighty motives to Zeal in this branch of Go-

binets might, ſurely, be managed in a leſs expenſive manner than is generally adopted. Simple Reſidents would anſwer the purpoſe as well if not better than Ambaſſadors. The King of Pruſſia has proved the fact: no Prince is ſo well informed as himſelf; and he has long ago put an end to parade in his Embaſſies.

vernment, the univerſal diſpoſition in the Natives of Great-Britain to viſit foreign Countries, is not the leaſt. Foreign Travel is become a neceſſary part of Education to every youth of rank and fortune: Commercial views influence many to traverſe every part of Europe; the love of Variety is continually urging its Votaries to range the Continent; Sickneſs alſo conducts its frequent Victims to gentler Climes and warmer Suns; while the Curioſity, natural to an enlightened Nation, impels no ſmall number to examine the Cuſtoms, Manners, as well as the extraordinary Works of Art and Nature in foreign Realms.

To protect, to inform, and ſometimes, if poſſible, to reform thoſe of

his

his Compatriots, who may ſojourn in the Country where his Employment has fixed him, is a part, and an important part, of a Miniſter's Duty; as well as by his own conduct to preſerve his Nation from any unfavourable prejudices ariſing from the idle and intemperate demeanour of Individuals who may diſgrace it *.

But, in ſpite of the many power-

* The Earl of Rochford was particularly attentive to this branch of his Department; and ſaved more than one inconſiderate Countryman from the jaws of Ruin. The Duke of Bedford alſo exerted his protection on a ſimilar occaſion, but it was in favour of his own family. At the interpoſition of his Grace, a Lady of the Opera was compelled to refund the pecuniary preſents which ſhe had received from the Marquis of Taviſtock.

ful motives which command an oppoſite conduct, the Britiſh Government is not duly attentive to this neceſſary Department of the State. I do not make an idle aſſertion: the truth of it muſt be evident to every one who has travelled in foreign Countries, or conſidered the ſubject in his own. A very curſory examination of the perſons who now are, or have lately been, employed in a Diplomatic capacity by the Court of Great-Britain, will, I fear, leave this part of our National Diſgrace without the ſhadow of a doubt.

To proceed with propriety and intelligence, even in this ſlight diſcuſſion of the ſubject before me, I ſhall obſerve, and, I believe, no one will

will diſſent from me, that the qualities eſſential to a man who is employed in repreſenting a great Empire, are Ability, Knowledge, Aſſiduity, Fidelity, and perſonal Conſequence. With this deſcription to guide me, it will not require any uncommon penetration to diſcover thoſe, among the Foreign Miniſters of our own Country, who are capable of ſerving it with effect and reputation.

At the Court of France we have not made a very reſpectable figure. The laſt premature and inadequate Peace, which I ſhall ever conſider as the ſource of our preſent Troubles, juſtified the expectations which had been formed of the Duke of

Bedford's talent for Negociation. He betrayed Meanneſs and Incapacity in many inſtances; he acted with a becoming ſpirit but in one *.

At the concluſion of the Peace, a period when the Splendor and Proſperity of this Country attained an height unknown in former ages, the Nobleman ſent to repreſent it at the Court of its humbled Enemy ſeems to have been charitably appointed, in order to avoid the indelicacy of exhibiting to France the Magnificence of a Miniſter which might have been conſidered as the reflection of his Country's Glory. It was the E— of H— — who was then named to this important Sta-

* See the Note, Vol. II. p. 189.

tion;

tion; a man of a known and eſtabliſhed character for niggardly Avarice; and who, during his reſidence at Paris, practiſed all the narrow principles of his beggarly Œconomy, to the encreaſe of his own fortune, but at the expence of his Country's honour †.

It

† From a thouſand other littleneſſes, which it is his nature to practiſe, for the ſake of adding Pence to Pence, I ſhall ſelect one, which may not be unentertaining. At a particular time, his Excellence, who is fond of Shooting, and a good Marksman, was favoured with the very rare liberty of indulging himſelf in his favourite amuſement, in the environs of Paris, where the quantity of Game is enormous. The number of Hares, &c. he ſent home is not to be repeated, and it cannot be ſuppoſed that the well-known Œconomy of his Houſho'd ſuffered any of the good things to be waſted; ſo that the Domeſtics began to think it neceſſary

It might be thought the Duke of R——'s fiery temper alone, whatever his general good qualities might be, would have occaſioned a refuſal of his demand to ſucceed to this Employment. Nothing leſs: and his Grace continued quarrelling with the French Miniſtry about Form

ceſſary to make the ſame agreement with their Lord, with reſpect to Game, that Apprentices on the Banks of the Severn uſed to inſiſt on with their Maſters, in regard to Salmon,—that it ſhould not be provided for them oftener than twice a week. About this time, the facetious George Selwyn, being at one of the Ambaſſador's public dinners, and finding that, in different ingenious forms, almoſt every diſh at the table was compoſed of Hare, humorouſly obſerved to his Excellence, that he had reverſed the celebrated Fable of Mr. Gay; for that he was not *the Hare and many Friends, but the Friend and many Hares.*

and

and Etiquette, till he was neceſſarily recalled, without having paſſed the threſhold of his Office. The E— of R— —, as well as his Lady, were amiable, polite, and hoſpitable; but both of them profeſſed lovers of Pleaſure, and principally attentive to thoſe gratifications which the voluptuous Capital of France afforded them. The E— of H— — was well inſtructed in the manners and ſervility of a Court; but his abilities did not proceed a line further; and, in the latter part of his life, the love of money grew inſatiably upon him.

The laſt in this Employment at the Court of Verſailles was Lord S— —. He is a Scholar, and ſpeaks the

the French Language in its utmoſt perfection, but is cold, haughty, and ungracious. Of his Political Talents there is little to be ſaid. Lord W——, indeed, gave the miniſterial Opinion of them; which does not tend to inſpire the Nation with any hopes of advantage from the ſhare he has taken in the direction of the State *.

The

* The Miniſtry, being accuſed by the Oppoſition Lords, in the Houſe of Peers, of a ſhameful concealment of the Alliance between France and the revolted Colonies, denied the accuſation, and declared they had taken public notice of the event, as ſoon as they had been authentically informed of it: whereupon, Lord S——, who felt himſelf injured by ſuch an avowal, aſſerted, in his place, that he had given them information of the Treaty, and many circumſtances relative to it, long before the miniſterial Declaration. Lord W——, then

The Earl of B——, who was the Britiſh Ambaſſador at Madrid, previous to the laſt War with the Spaniſh Nation, was a Man of Underſtanding, Integrity, and Conſequence, ſuperior to any of his Succeſſors in that Employment; and having already been in the ſame capacity at Turin, he was not, as many of our Foreign Miniſters have been, ignorant of the nature of his Charge, and at the mercy of an upſtart Secretary, appointed by his own Court. But he was too haughty even for the Spaniards, and too

then Secretary of State, acknowledged that ſuch intelligence had arrived at the time alluded to by the late Ambaſſador to France; but, at the ſame time, obſerved, the Miniſters were to be allowed their opinion of its authenticity.

much

much attached to the Punctilios of his Station to acquire any degree of Popularity among them. He did not want attention to every part of his Duty, nor ſpirit to remonſtrate, in very manly terms, againſt the Spaniſh Duplicity: but the Emiſſaries of France proved too powerful for him; and he was over-reached by them, as appears from the State-Letters he publiſhed, on his return to England, to juſtify the conduct of his friend Mr. Pitt, and his own*.

* On his return home, the King received him with great coolneſs, and refuſed to perform the promiſe which had been made him of a Marquiſate and the Garter. But, to do his Lordſhip juſtice, this unmerited treatment may be rather imputed to his intimate friendſhip with Mr. Pitt, then in violent Oppoſition to the Court, than to any juſt cauſe of complaint againſt him in his official Character.

Lord G— —, for I ſhall paſs by his immediate Predeceſſors, is a Nobleman of very amiable manners; and ſupported the exterior of his Character with a degree of Splendor which left the Miniſters of every other Country far behind him. But, although he poſſeſſes a good underſtanding, it is not of that kind which forms a Stateſman. A taſte for the Fine Arts, and a love of ſplendid Hoſpitality, give a Luſtre to Men of high Station: but the Miniſter requires ſomething more; Political Sagacity and Political Erudition are neceſſary to the perfection of his Character.

Sir Joſeph Yorke is a very valuable Servant of the Crown. He is at once

once able, well inſtructed, diligent, upright, and of that rank to which perſonal Conſequence is intimately allied. A long and approved diſcharge of his Duty has made him reſpectable in the opinion of his own Country, of the People among whom he reſides, and of Europe. If the French intereſt has prevailed in the States of Holland, againſt that of his Maſter, it is owing to the narrow, ſordid, and cowardly principles of that Nation: and, in ſome ſmall degree, perhaps, to his diſdain of thoſe low Arts, the practice of which, he might think, would diſgrace the Empire he repreſents *.

* To forward the Intrigues of his Court in Holland, the French Miniſter employed his arts, in a low manner, among the loweſt of the people.

In

In every ſtep he has taken, in the preſent critical ſituation of Affairs, he has had Wiſdom for his guide; and, in the various Memorials which he has preſented, every Friend to Great-Britain will acknowledge that he has defended the Rights of his Country with firmneſs, with ſpirit, and with truth. I congratulate the King in poſſeſſing ſuch a faithful, able, and zealous Servant, in a ſituation of ſo much importance; and am truly concerned that my ſatiſfaction muſt be wounded by the reflection, that, among all his Foreign Miniſters, he is the only one of whom he has a right to boaſt.

The Envoy Extraordinary at the Imperial Court is a Gentleman of

whoſe great talents or perſonal conſequence we are yet to learn. He certainly poſſeſſes a very manly ſpirit; and is well known to have exerted it, in a manner that did him honour, in defence of an unfortunate and inſulted Queen, when he reſided at the Court of Copenhagen. He is a man of very pleaſing Manners, which have procured him the univerſal eſteem of the Inhabitants of Vienna, and make him the ſubject of grateful Praiſe from all his Countrymen who paſs through that City. The compariſon between him and his Predeceſſor is greatly to the diſadvantage of the latter, who, to uſe the moſt tender expreſſion, was conſidered in a very unfavourable light by the whole Court.

The

The Britiſh Miniſters at the Court of Peterſburgh have not been ſo fortunate as to reflect any bright Rays of Honour on the Sovereign who appointed them.—The preſent Viceroy of Ireland does not poſſeſs a capacity equal to Buſineſs of a much inferior nature to that in which he has been employed *; nor would he have aſked for the Ruſſian Embaſſy, but as a refuge from domeſtic Un-

* It has been ſaid of ſome men, that they appear to advantage no where but in their own houſes; and of Lord B———, it may be obſerved, that he never diſplayed any Ability but in his own County. Norfolk is very antiminiſterial: nevertheleſs, in ſpite of his ſervile attachment to the Court, he has contrived to preſerve his influence there; and, I believe, without any great degree of Hoſpitality, which, being a ſpecies of Charity, will ſometimes cover a multitude of Sins.

eaſineſs †.—His ſucceſſor, the late unfortunate Governor of the Grenades, was an intimate Friend of the firſt Lord Holland's eldeſt ſon, Mr. Stephen Fox, and, therefore, warmly patroniſed by the Father; who, founding his Politics, as was uſual with him, upon ſome Principle degrading to Human Nature, recommended him to be his Majeſty's Miniſter to the Court of Peterſburgh, as a young man, whoſe perſonal qualities might engage the regard of its wanton Miſtreſs, and, by the in-

† It is not deſigned to throw any ſuſpicion around the Character of the preſent Lady B— — —, for ſhe deſerves none. But it has been ſaid, that his Lordſhip's former marriage was not attended with the ſame felicity which he has now the happineſs to enjoy.

fluence

fluence of unchaſte Gallantry, ſecure her willing coincidence with the demands of his Maſter. Whether the capricious Empreſs did not diſcover the ſtriking Qualifications in our young Ambaſſador which Lord Holland had imagined; or that, forgetting the principal part of his Errand, he preferred one of her Maids of Honour to herſelf, and, of courſe, gave her Majeſty cauſe of diſpleaſure, I cannot tell; but it was ſoon diſcovered that he did not poſſeſs talents equal to the Taſk he was ſent to fulfil, and was at length recalled *.

Sir

* An Intrigue of this kind certainly took place; and the young Lady, who was ſo much attached to Engliſh Merit, narrowly eſcaped a journey to Siberia.

The Ruſſian Merchants in England gave

Sir George, now Lord M———, was followed by the Earl of Cathcart, a Nobleman of poliſhed Manners and amiable Character, whom the Empreſs diſtinguiſhed with very flattering marks of Attention; but whether they proceeded from perſonal regard to a man advanced in life, and with an enfeebled conſtitution, or that ſhe was then imploring the Aſſiſtance of England, to forward the birth of her Maritime Power, which ſhe now baſely threatens to employ againſt it, muſt

great Applauſe to this Gentleman, for the conduct and concluſion of a Treaty, relative to ſome branch of Commerce, between the two Courts; but, from later information, it appears that they were indebted for it to ſome active Individuals of the Britiſh Factory at Peterſburgh, and not to him.

be

be left to the judgment of the reflecting Reader.

Sir J— H—— now enjoys the honour of repreſenting his Britannic Majeſty at the Ruſſian Court *. He is a young man who has been educated with great care, and, it muſt be acknowledged, is capable of ſomething; but, unfortunately, he thinks himſelf capable of everything. However, during his reſidence at Peterſburgh, the influence of France has been daily encreaſing at that Court; and it has been publicly as well as authentically ſaid, that he was ſo ill informed of the Intrigues of the French and Ruſſian

* He is the ſon of the celebrated Author of Hermes, &c. &c.

Miniſters, that the firſt intelligence of the Empreſs's deſign to raiſe the drooping ſpirits of the Dutch, by offering to join them and other Powers in ſupporting the Neutral Flag on the Seas, came from his Majeſty's Ambaſſador at the Hague. I aſſert this fact from reſpectable Authority; and the preceding Declarations of our Miniſters at home, and the univerſal hopes of the People of England, of naval Aſſiſtance from the Baltic, ſeem, in no ſmall degree, to confirm it.

It was thought a neceſſary meaſure, ſome years ago, to adorn Mr. Mitchel with the Red Ribbon, and to ſend him a ſecond time as Miniſter Plenipotentiary to the Court of

of Berlin, becauſe he was the intimate Friend of the late Lord Marſhal, and ſuppoſed to be in the good graces of the Pruſſian Monarch. This was then conſidered as a Policy founded in Reaſon and Prudence: but, though Political Affairs may, ſince that time, wear ſomewhat of a different appearance, the Nature of Things remains the ſame:—that order has not, by any violent convulſion, been inverted; and the change that has happened calls for ſtill greater Vigilance, and more attentive Circumſpection. I cannot, therefore, conceive upon what principle Mr. E——— is ſuffered to remain at a Court, where the Sovereign has taken ſome ſingular occaſions to ſhew a perſonal diſregard to

that

that Gentleman *. Is it from reſpect to his late Father's Character †, from an idea of his poſſeſſing hereditary Virtues; or can he be ſuppoſed to derive any Privilege or Conſequence from having ſerved in the Pruſſian Army?‡ Perhaps it may ariſe from the Skill he diſplayed in getting a glance at the Papers of an American Agent who preſented himſelf at Berlin §.

Sir

* Theſe Royal Slights were played off againſt the Man, and not againſt the Miniſter.

† The late Sir Gilbert E— — —.

‡ He firſt ſerved in the Britiſh Troops; and is the individual Maſter E— — — whom the North Briton introduced to public notice, as being in the poſſeſſion of a Commiſſion in the Army, with all its emoluments, while he was a child.

§ Mr. Lee, who was the Emiſſary of Congreſs upon this occaſion, declares that Mr. E— — —

Sir W——— H——— has long ago given up Politics to purſue his enquiries in Antiquity and Natural Hiſtory; a diſpoſition which the vicinity of his reſidence offers the means of gratifying even to ſa-

E——— never ſaw the inſide of his Papers. His mode of enquiry after them, when he diſcovered the theft, occaſioned their being reſtored, in the preciſe ſtate, and with the ſame art and ingenuity which had been employed to purloin them.

After certain enquiries upon the ſubject, I find his continuance at the Pruſſian Court is to be attributed to the tender kindneſs of Government, which could not be ſo hard-hearted as to blaſt a young man's proſpects in Life. It is ſaid that a wealthy Lady of that Country is ſo ſenſible of Engliſh Merit, as to have formed the deſign of rewarding it with her perſon and fortune: England, therefore, muſt wait till the conſummation of this Marriage, before it can ſend a proper Miniſter to the Houſe of Brandenburgh.

tiety.

tiety. The World is already indebted to him for his ingenious reſearches; and the Neapolitan Naturaliſt, as well as Etruſcan Antiquarian, will be remembered, when the Plenipotentiary to the Court of Naples has long been forgotten.

The King's Miniſter at Florence would diſgrace a Paragraph,—and he ſhall not have one.

The Office of Envoy Extraordinary to the Court of Portugal may be numbered among the Diplomatic Sinecures; and he who poſſeſſes it may be allowed to ſleep over it, as the chief buſineſs is executed, and well executed, by Sir John Hort, his Britannic Majeſty's Conſul at Liſbon.

The

The Embaſſy to the Porte, ſince the French contrived to get poſſeſſion of the Levant Trade, is not of its former importance to us. It is a very diſagreeable ſituation; but, as its emoluments are conſiderable, a needy man will be glad to accept of it.

His Majeſty's Miniſter at Stockholm was originally in Trade; and his Commercial Knowledge is ſaid to have made his reſidence at Warſaw very profitable. He was ſent to the Court of Peterſburgh, and her Imperial Majeſty refuſed to receive him. He had reſided there before in an inferior Station; during which time he had created Enemies, who had it in their power to fruſtrate his

his appointment to a ſuperior Employ. He was then transferred to Poland, and has lately been removed to Sweden. He is well acquainted with the Affairs of the Northern parts of Europe.

The late Reſident at Venice was a diſtant Relation of ſome part of the late Lord Northington's Family; and, by that Nobleman's intereſt, was appointed to repreſent his Majeſty at that Republic. His principal buſineſs was to collect Pictures, &c. for his Maſter and for himſelf. His Succeſſor is alſo a man of *Virtù*, and may, probably, be ſent upon the ſame honourable and conſtitutional errand.

The Court of Turin is among the number

number of thoſe whom the Britiſh Government has not treated with due reſpect. Mr. P——, now Lord R——, when he reſided there, led ſuch a life of Debauchery, that he was once ſeized by the Officers of the Police, in the riot of a Brothel; and was ſaved from the ſeverity of the Laws by the Privileges belonging to his Public Character.—Sir W———L—— thought it, latterly, much more convenient to reſide in London than at Turin; and to give no thought about his Office, but what might be neceſſary for receiving the ſalary of it.—The Nobleman who has ſucceeded him has ſought the appointment, I fear, with no other view than to get away from a Country, where the Hatred that attends

attends his Family, and the inſults daily offered to his Father's Name, muſt make his life a continued ſcene of Uneaſineſs and Mortification.

Sir J—— S——, who ſaunters about the Aſſemblies of Dreſden, in honour of his Royal Maſter, is a gay young man, of an elegant taſte, and with an eſtate moſt heavily encumbered by a Dowager, who makes Life too agreeable to think of leaving it. In this woful ſtate of expectation and impatience, he was appointed by the intereſt of the late Lord Suffolk, at the recommendation of the Duke of Beaufort, to preſent the annual Compliments of his Majeſty to the Elector of Saxony.

The

The Gentleman who is lately appointed Envoy to the Court of Warſaw is ſaid to poſſeſs very uncommon talents: but, whatever charms they may have afforded to Private Society, the Public has not been honoured with any experience of them. He is only known in the World by the refinements of his Diſſipation *.

And here I muſt make a pauſe. —Already fatigued with this barren

* This Gentleman is not yet entered upon the Service of his Employment. Perhaps his propoſed arrangement with Captain W— — has diſarranged the whole Buſineſs. It cannot be poſſible that Lord N— can want a ſufficient degree of Spirit and of Juſtice to treat ſuch Panders of his Sovereign's Honour as they deſerve.

track, I ſhall paſs over, without particular notice, the remaining inferior Courts where it has been thought neceſſary to ſend a Repreſentative of his Britannic Majeſty *. I ſhall not even mention the Commiſſion to the Congreſs, which, in every circumſtance of its appointment and

* Sir James Porter was uſed to ſay that he was ſent to Bruſſels to keep an half-way houſe for the Engliſh going to Spa. His ſucceſſor, Sir W——— G——, was reſolved not to be ſubject to this inconvenience; and, therefore, at that ſeaſon, generally left Bruſſels and all political concerns to themſelves, to live among his diſtant Acquaintance. The young man who immediately followed him is not in a ſituation to keep half-way houſes, or any other. He is there only in the quality of Reſident, dependent upon the ſalary of his Employment, which is conſiderably diminiſhed by the 200l. per annum which he has engaged to pay his Predeceſſor.

exiſtence,

exiſtence, was diſgraceful beyond deſcription; but proceed to a concluſion, which I am equally obliged and aſhamed to make,—That the King of Great-Britain is worſe repreſented in foreign Nations than any other Prince in Europe. It is truly mortifying to obſerve, that, from the Conſul at Oſtend to the higheſt point of Diplomatic Office, the Hague excepted, the French poſſeſs a marked and decided ſuperiority over us *.

Thoſe things called Jobs are a

* Many of the Britiſh Conſuls in the Mediterranean and the Archipelago have not only been Bankrupts; a circumſtance which, one might imagine, would not increaſe their eligibility for national Confidence; but are under the diſgrace of having the term fraudulent applied to their failures.

diſgrace to any Government: a bad Miniſter, however, cannot govern without them; and, when they are once become a part of the political order of things, a better Miniſter will not, perhaps, ſacrifice ſo much of his eaſe as to remove them; and, being thus eſtabliſhed, ſucceeding Adminiſtrations have ſome excuſe to plead for maintaining them. But the diſgrace of ſuch arrangements is, if poſſible, encreaſed, when they are ſuffered to mingle with thoſe Employments in other Kingdoms which are formed to ſupport our National Reſpect in the World, to preſerve the chain of our Alliances, and from whence our Stateſmen are to be inſtructed in the proceedings of

of every Court in Europe *. However, ſo it is, that this branch of Government is alſo very ſubject to them, in common with every other. Hence, inſtead of great Talents, tried Integrity, and perſonal Conſequence; domeſtic Uneaſineſs, ſmall Eſtates, ruined Fortunes, and ſometimes even ruined Conſtitutions, &c. are general qualifications for Diplomatic Repreſentation. Thus is the truth of *Rochefoucauli*'s Maxim

* There was a cabal among all the firſt perſons in the State about appointing Mr. N—— Envoy to the Swiſs Cantons, and Sir J— W— to Venice. It required no ſmall time to arrange this important buſineſs: and, after all, it ended in the conſent of the former to pay 500l. per annum to the Gentleman he ſucceeded; and the latter found it neceſſary to advance an handſome gratuity before the matter could find a concluſion.

verified

verified amongſt us: "*Les Rois ſont des Hommes comme des pieces de Monnoie: ils les font valoir ce qu'ils veulent, et l'on eſt forcé de les recevoir ſelon leur cours, et non pas ſelon leur veritable prix.*"

But this is not all; our Foreign Miniſters are not only injudiciouſly appointed, but, according to the complaints of many of them, very ill paid: ſo that it is no uncommon thing to ſee a public Repreſentative of his Britannic Majeſty cringing, to ſay no worſe, in the Accompting-Houſe of a foreign Banker, for the favour of advancing a quarterly payment.

In the reign of Queen Anne, a very active period, when intelligence

was

was well obtained, the annual expences attending Foreign Miniſters amounted to 45,000l. During the Adminiſtration of Mr. Pitt, who ſeemed to poſſeſs the keys of all the Cabinets in Europe, they were augmented to 50,000l. But in theſe times, when our Miniſters really appear to have been ſo much in the dark, they have encreaſed to the enormous ſum of 96,000l.†

The reſult of this enquiry muſt be

† It would be a very wiſe Meaſure in Government, inſtead of loading the Penſion-Liſt for the ſupport of indigent Nobility, to employ them in a Foreign Capacity. If, in the early part of life, they were ſent to the inferior Courts, they might be prepared, by obtaining a knowledge of Buſineſs, to enter with credit into the more important Offices of the State at home or abroad. It is aſtoniſhing that a ſenſe of Honour does not inſpire our Men of Rank to deſpiſe the idle, uſeleſs, and dependent ſtate in which ſo

be the ſame in the breaſt of every good Citizen,—that the State is become ſo very corrupt, as, in the ordinary courſe of Human Affairs, to exclude all hopes of any ſolid reformation.

After all, there is a kind of imperfect Conſolation furniſhed by the reflection, that, notwithſtanding Great-Britain ſeems to have declined from its former Character, ſuch is the ſtate of the World, it ſtill preſerves a ſuperiority in the Scale of Empire.

ſo many of them live; and urge them to attain thoſe qualifications for high and profitable Offices, by fulfilling whoſe duties they might be enabled to leave to their Children an augmented Inheritance and Reputation, gained, with Honour, in the ſervice of their Country.

END OF THE FIFTH VOLUME.